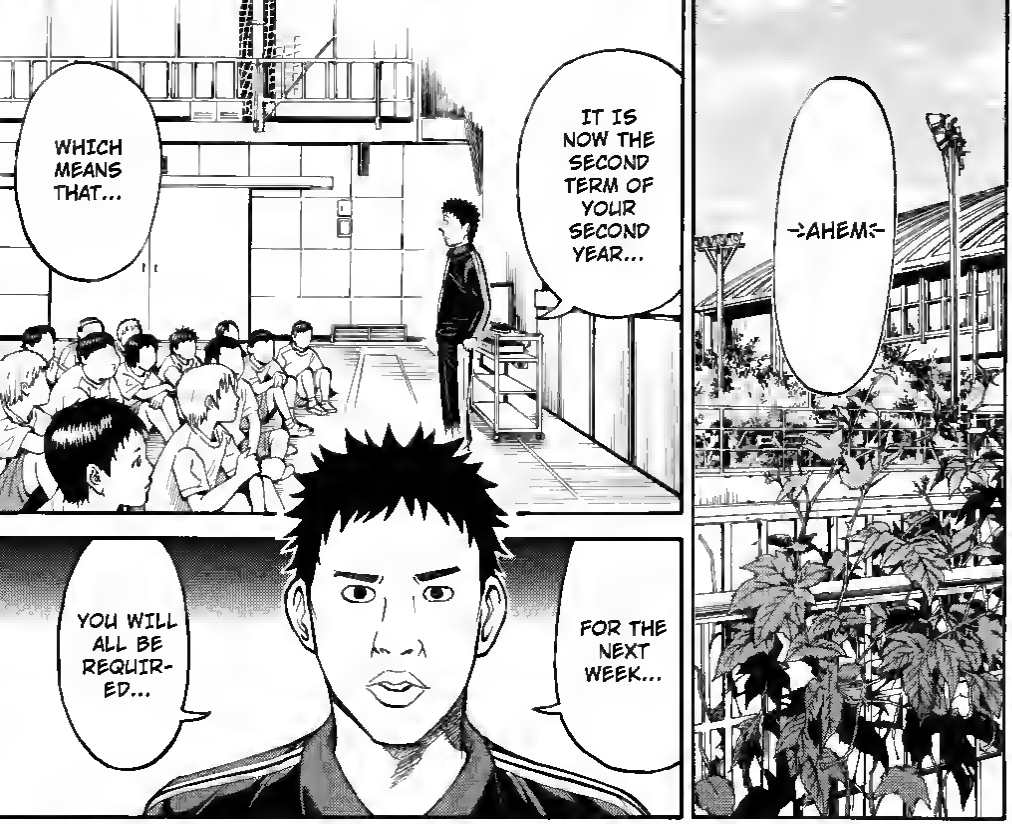
5
STORY BY YUU KURAISHI
ART BY KEISHI NISHIKIDA
MY WIFE IS
WAGATSUMA-SAN



# PART 15
# Got To Be There

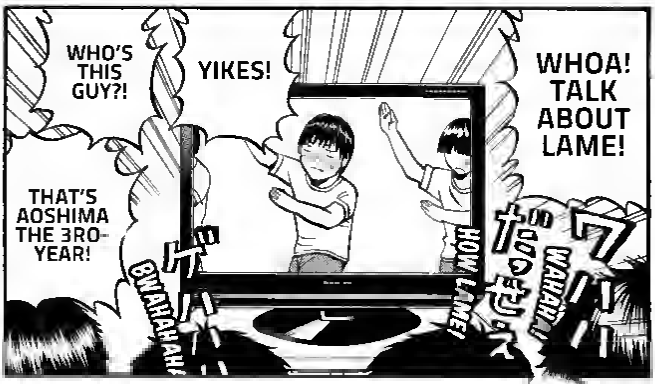
HUH? YOU'VE DONE IT BEFORE, KOMATSU?
YEAH...
BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
SO? WHAT DO YOU DO?
WHAT THE? WHAT DOES HE MEAN, "CREATIVE DANCE"?
UGH?! CREA-TIVE DANCE?
...
BLUUUUSH
WHAT IS IT?! TELL US AL-READY!
NOW, TO EXPLAIN WHAT YOU'LL BE DOING...
I'M GOING TO HAVE YOU WATCH A VIDEO OF LAST YEAR'S 2ND-YEAR CLASS.
WHAT IS...
UGH!
HOW LAME!
SHUT UP AND WATCH!
CREA-TIVE DANCE ?!
IS HE SERI-OUS ABOUT THIS?
WHAAA
CHIRP
DINK

CREATIVE DANCE IS A P.E. PROJECT AIMED AT IMPROVING ONE'S ABILITY TO EXPRESS ONESELF USING THE BODY...
VIA DANCES CREATED BY THE DANCERS THEMSELVES!
BUT!!
IT TENDS TO END UP LOOKING LIKE LIFE-LESS INTERPRETIVE DANCE...
AN ACT OF SELF-TORTURE EMBARRASSING TO BOTH THE AUDIENCE AND PERFORMERS!
TWIST
TWIST
BECAUSE IT IS PER-FORMED BY DANCERS WITH NO INTEREST IN, OR KNOWL-EDGE OF DANCE...
THIS...
IS PRETTY DARN EMBAR-RASSING.

OH...
IT PAINS ME TO SAY THIS, BUT I DON'T WANT TO TURN OUT LIKE THEM...
WOW... THAT MUST HAVE BEEN ROUGH ON OUR DEAR SENPAI...
SHOCK
WHY THE HECK DO YOU THINK I SHOWED IT TO YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE?!
D-DON'T TELL ME WE'VE GOTTA DO THIS TOO?!
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING
BOO!
HUH? ARE YOU SERIOUS?
BOO!
THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD THIS TIME NEXT WEEK.
SO NOW I'LL ASK YOU TO SPLIT INTO GROUPS, COME UP WITH YOUR OWN DANCES, AND EXHIBIT THEM BEFORE THE CLASS.
I WILL BE THE ONE SCORING YOU AT THE EXHIBITION, AND...
BY THE WAY...

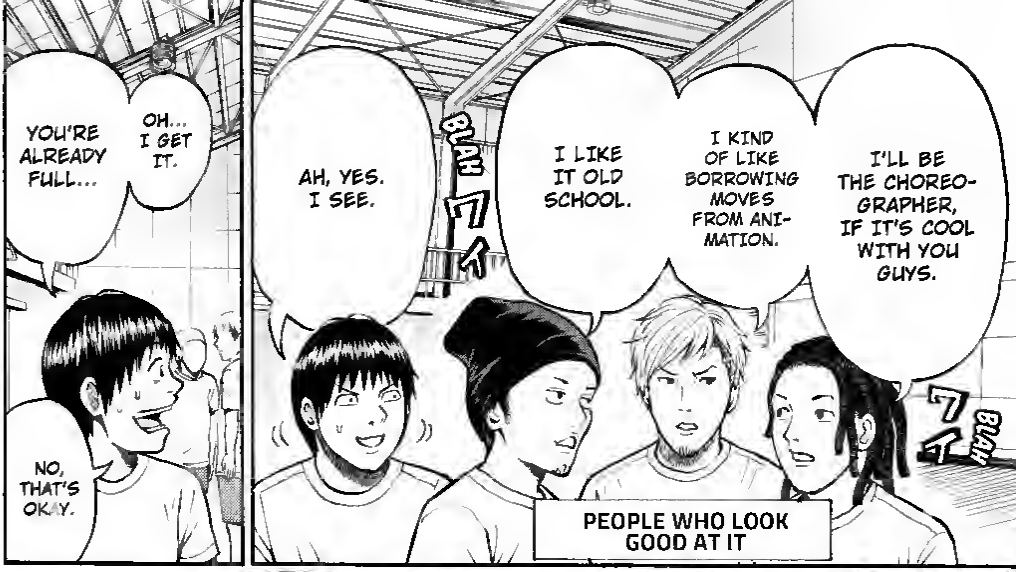
SO DO YOUR BEST, EVERY-ONE.
I'LL BE SHOWING THE VIDEO OF THE LOWEST-SCORING GROUP'S PERFOR-MANCE TO NEXT YEAR'S CLASS AS AN EXAMPLE...

I WANT YOU TO GO AHEAD AND FORM YOUR GROUPS.
DIVIDE YOURSELVES INTO GROUPS OF FOUR OR FIVE HOW-EVER YOU WANT.


WHO'S THIS GUY?!
YIKES!
WHOA! TALK ABOUT LAME!
THAT'S AOSHIMA THE 3RO-YEAR!
HOW LAME!

LISTEN UP.
OH CRAP! OH CRAP! I'LL BE A LAUGHING-STOCK!!

I MUST JOIN A GROUP THAT CAN ACTUALLY DANCE!!
DASH
IN ORDER TO PREVENT MYSELF FROM BE-COMING A LAUGHING-STOCK NEXT YEAR...


YOU'RE ALREADY FULL...
OH... I GET IT.
NO, THAT'S OKAY.
AH, YES. I SEE.
BLAH BLAH
I LIKE IT OLD SCHOOL.
I KIND OF LIKE BORROWING MOVES FROM ANIMATION.
I'LL BE THE CHOREOGRAPHER, IF IT'S COOL WITH YOU GUYS.
BLAH BLAH
PEOPLE WHO LOOK GOOD AT IT

THAT'S THE TICKET! YEAH, LET'S DO THAT!
LET'S WATCH SOME VIDEOS ONLINE AND THINK IT OVER.
THEN WE CAN REARRANGE THOSE OR SOMETHING.
I JUST BARELY KNOW THE BASIC STEPS.
HEY, WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, GUYS?!
PEOPLE WHO LOOK OKAY AT IT

DANG IT... WHY DO I FEEL SO LEFT OUT?

HAVE I BEEN LEFT HIGH AND DRY?!
WHAT THE?

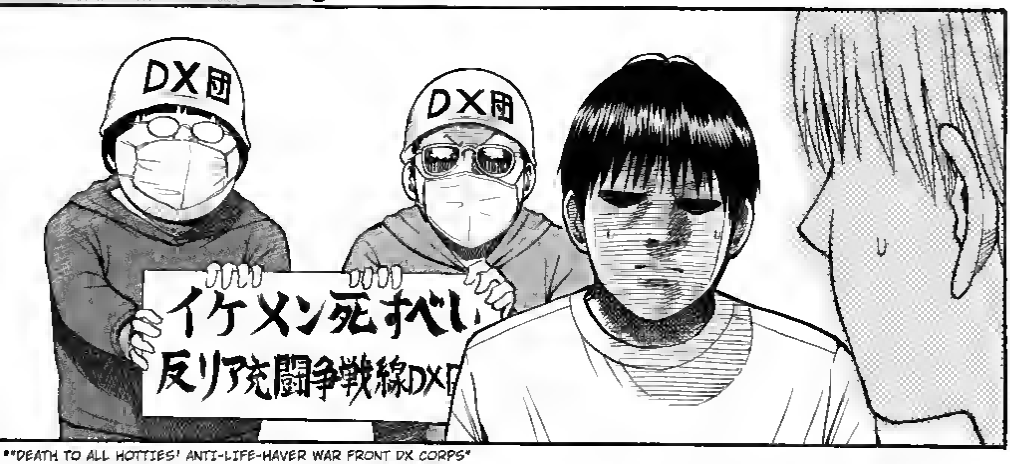
OKAY.
OH, I SEE.

GLANCE

HUH?
HUH?

WHAM
LEFTOVER GROUP
SO THIS IS THE LEFTOVER GROUP, HUH?
HMM? WHAT THE?
YEAH! YEAH!
THAT'S ENOUGH, RIGHT?! LET'S JUST LIVE OUT THE REST OF OUR LIVES JUST THE THREE OF US!!
WHUMP
BAM
OH WELL
LEFTOVER GROUP
OH WELL.
BA-DAM
BE KIND ENOUGH TO JOIN THEM
OH WELL
LEFTOVER GROUP
WOULD ANY OF YOU BE KIND ENOUGH TO JOIN THEIR GROUP?

DON'T YOU FEEL BAD FOR THEM?
COME ON, BOYS. DON'T TALK LIKE THAT...
THIS ASS OF A TEACHER...
TH-
I KNOW, RIGHT?
HUH? ANYBODY WHO JOINS THEIR GROUP IS GUARANTEED TO COME IN LAST PLACE.
CAN THOSE GUYS EVEN DANCE?
SILENT RESISTANCE
...
HMM? YOU...
WHAT THE HECK, GUYS? FINE...
BEG PARDON?
THE HOTTIE KING OF FRESHNESS
YUUKI DOBASHI
DOBASHI...
YOU JOIN THEM.




*"DEATH TO ALL HOTTIES! ANTI-LIFE-HAVER WAR FRONT DX CORPS"

WHO IS OOBASHI-KUN? HOW IS HE INVOLVED WITH THE OX CORPS?

FIND THOSE ANSWERS AND MORE IN VOL. 2 OF "MY WIFE IS WAGA-TSUMA-SAN"!

HUH?
THEN WHICH SONG DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD PICK, DO-BASHI?
WHAT IF WE WENT WITH SOME-THING NOT TOO UNOR-THODOX LIKE...
LET'S SEE...
WHAT AN OLD REFER-ENCE*!!
WHO CARES?
*TO ERIKA SAWAJIRI, AN ACTRESS WHO CAUSED A SCENE WITH A CURT-/DISMISSIVE RESPONSE TO AN INTERVIEW QUESTION SOME YEARS AGO
EXILE? ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
EXILE* OR SOME-THING?
*14-MEMBER JAPANESE BOY BAND
THIS IS *REALLY* AWKWARD.
WHAT'M I GONNA DO?
ITOU...
UGH...
ARE YOU SURE EXILE IS THE BEST OPTION?
YEAH, LET'S DO THIS!
ALL RIGHT, NOW THAT THE SONG'S SETTLED, LET'S MOVE ON TO THE CHOREO-GRAPHY!

OH...OUR NEIGHBORS ARE ALREADY WORKING ON THEIR DANCE...
I KNEW IT...
SO IT'S NO USE AFTER ALL?
IS THERE NO WAY WE CAN AVOID LAST PLACE?
YOU'RE RIGHT...
EXILE IS BY NO MEANS A BAD CHOICE.
?
BUT...
AREN'T YOU FORGETTING... THE KING?
THE KING?
FWIP
WHAT A MAGNIFICENT MOONWALK!!
"THE KING"? DON'T TELL ME YOU MEAN...
SHWIP SHWIP

MIC-
HAEL
JACK-
SON!!
THE
KING OF
POP!

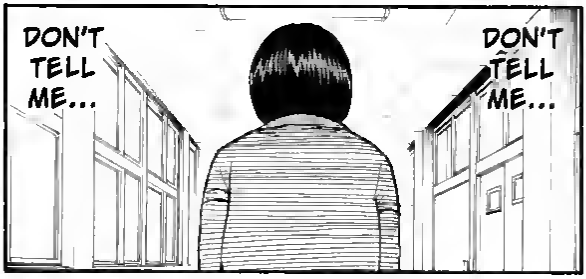
HE'S BRIM-MING WITH CONFI-DENCE!
OUR SONG WILL, OF COURSE, BE "BAD."
LET'S DO SOMETHING NO ONE'S EVER DONE BEFORE.
BY MICHAEL

ITOU... DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE A GOOD DANCER?!
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KID-DING, RIGHT?!

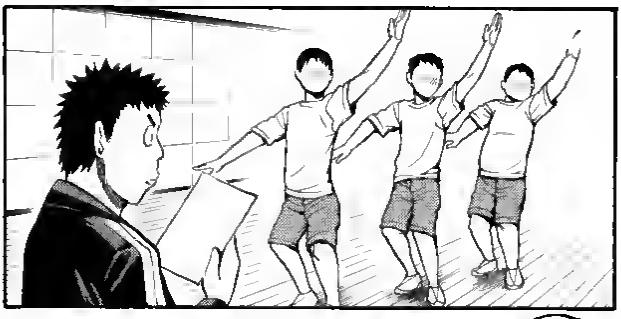
NO, NO, NO! ALL WRONG!
ONE, TWO!
AND... ONE, TWO!
AFTER THAT, THE DRILL IN-STRUCTOR FROM HELL ITOU'S SPECIAL LESSONS BEGAN!

WELL, HE DID TICK US OFF A TIME OR TWO, BUT HE DID WHIP US MOSTLY INTO SHAPE.
ONCE MORE, FROM THE TOP!
YOU HAVE TO FEEL IT!
BY MICHAEL
THINKING WHILE YOU DANCE IS YOUR BIGGEST MISTAKE!
I NEVER WOULD'VE THOUGHT ITOU HAD A TALENT FOR DANCE.
MAN, I THINK WE'VE GOT A REAL SHOT AT PULLING THIS OFF.
GET AWAY FROM HIM BE-FORE HE CATCHES YOUR LOSER-DOM!!
WHAT ARE YOU DORKS DOING WITH DOBASHI-KUN?!
HEY?! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!
WHAT?! YOU'RE IN THE SAME CREATIVE DANCE GROUP?!
Y... YEAH.
WE'RE DOING THE CREATIVE DANCE TO-GETHER.
NO CAN DO, GIRLS. WE'RE IN THE SAME GROUP!

BUT HE DOESN'T COMPLAIN ONE BIT.
JUST LIKE "JOURNEY TO THE WEST," HE'S THE ONLY HUMAN...
D...
DOBASHI-KUN...
HE'S SO...
KIND...
WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF YOU DRAG DOBASHI-KUN DOWN WITH YOU?
BUT YOU GUYS BETTER BE CARE-FUL...
OUR AMAZING PERFORMANCE WILL MAKE YOU SQUIRT HARDER THAN HAYABUSA KATOU!!
JUST SHUT UP AND WATCH THE EXHIBI-TION!!
SHOVE OFF, YOU HAGS!
DIE, PIG!
WHAT DID YOU SAY, TUBBO ?!!!



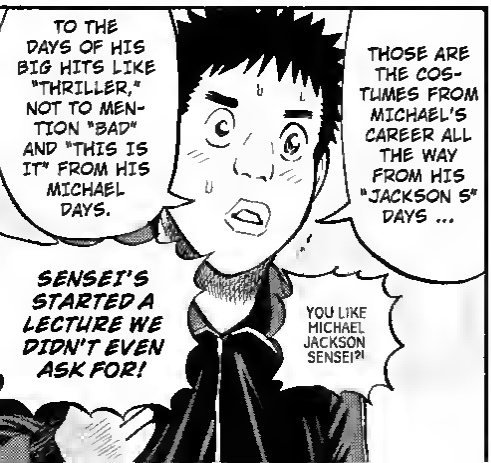

## — DAY OF THE EXHIBITION —



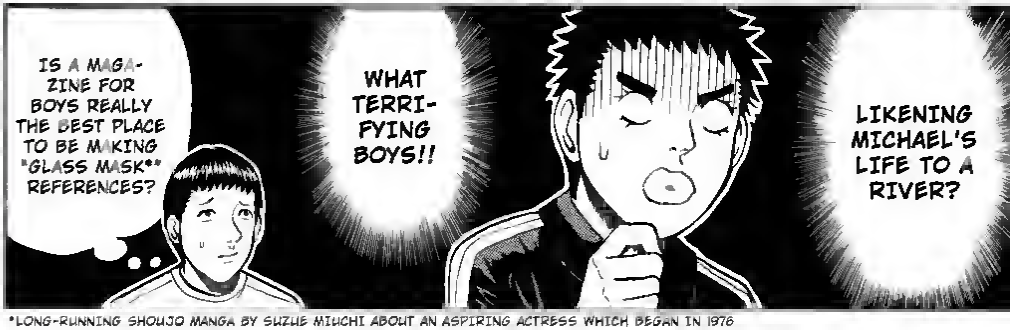
PAH
PAH
PAH
PAH
PAH
WHAT THE?!
WH-
PAH
PAH
PAH
SWAPP

SNAPP
UH!
HA!
WHAPP
HA!
PAH
UH!
PAH

THEY BROUGHT COSTUMES!
WHAT'S WITH THAT, SENSEI?!
THAT'S CHEATING!


TO THE DAYS OF HIS BIG HITS LIKE "THRILLER," NOT TO MENTION "BAD" AND "THIS IS IT" FROM HIS MICHAEL DAYS.
THOSE ARE THE COSTUMES FROM MICHAEL'S CAREER ALL THE WAY FROM HIS "JACKSON 5" DAYS ...
SENSEI'S STARTED A LECTURE WE DIDN'T EVEN ASK FOR!
YOU LIKE MICHAEL JACKSON SENSEI?!

POH !!!!


IS A MAGAZINE FOR BOYS REALLY THE BEST PLACE TO BE MAKING "GLASS MASK*" REFERENCES?
WHAT TERRIFYING BOYS!!
LIKENING MICHAEL'S LIFE TO A RIVER?

*LONG-RUNNING SHOUJO MANGA BY SUZUE MIUCHI ABOUT AN ASPIRING ACTRESS WHICH BEGAN IN 1976

THE ONLY TIME I CAN EXPRESS THE ME THAT WAS AWAKENED BY MICHAEL IS...
I'D NEVER THINK OF ASKING SOMEONE TO WATCH ME DANCE.
I NEVER WOULD HAVE EXPECTED TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

THIS...IS SO EM-BARRASSING!
BUT...
WAGATSUMA-SAN IS WATCHING!
PA-RAH
TO THE VERY END!!
I HAVE TO STICK IT OUT...
PA-RAH
I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT THIS IS AWE-SOME!
OHHH! MOVES FROM "THRILLER" MIXED IN WITH "BAD"!
THIS MOMENT ALONE!
PAH
PA-RAH
PAH

YEEEEEAAAAAH
アアアア

# PART 16
# BY THE WAY

OH. WHY, THIS IS A SCHOOL.
NOW, WHERE ARE WE, DOCTOR?
OH...IT WAS MY PLEASURE.
TODAY WE ASKED ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST DR. SHIROU ITOU TO JOIN US. I'M GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT, DOCTOR.
YES. FRANKLY, IT IS HELL.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A RATHER UNPLEASANT PLACE.
IT IS A LOCATION WHERE, DURING BREEDING SEASON, HOMO SAPIENS COME TO FIND A MATE.
"SCHOOL," YOU SAY?

SOME-THING'S COMING, DOCTOR!
OHH! WHY THAT'S... !!!!
THAT'S A HOMO FRIGGIN'-LIFE-HAVER DOBASHI-ENSIS!
OH HO! SO THAT IS THE INFAMOUS CRO-DOBASHI MAN!
EEK!
OH! IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S SPOTTED SOME-THING...
EEK!
EEK!
EEK!
WHAT IS THAT, DOCTOR?!
THAT IS THE COURTING BEHAVOIR OF THE HOMO SAPIENS FEMALE.
WHAT THE?! HE'S WAVING HIS HAND IN RESPONSE!
I KNOW, RIGHT? THAT'S THE KIND OF JERK HE IS.
THE FEMALES HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO COURT THIS ONE FOR SOME TIME NOW, BUT...
LATELY, THEIR ADVANCES SEEM TO HAVE IN-CREASED DRAS-TICALLY.

BE-CAUSE THE FRIGGIN' CREA-TIVE DANCE EXHI-BITION ONLY IN-CREAS-ED HIS POPU-LARITY !!!!
...
AND... DO YOU KNOW THE REASON FOR THIS INCREASE, DOCTOR?
WELL...
W-
WASN'T THAT CREATIVE DANCE YOUR IDEA, ITOU-SAN?!
YES! INDEED IT WAS!!
うわぁぁぁ
UWAHHH
THE CONCEPT, COSTUMES, CHOREO-GRAPHY... I THOUGHT UP AND HANDLED EVERY BIT OF IT!!
WE AREN'T THE LEAST BIT POP-ULAR!!
THAT JERK HOGGED ALL THE POPU-LARITY!
DUDE...WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A REST ALREADY? YOU'RE ONLY MAKING YOURSELF FEEL WORSE...
WHAT?! ARE YOU NOT FRUSTRATED, AOSHIMA?!

WHY ?!!!
TO THAT END, I'M GOING TO PUNCH BOTH OF YOU!
GOOD! WELL SAID!
I'M FRUS-TRATED, COACH !!!!
"WILL TODAY'S YOUNGSTERS EVEN GET THIS REFERENCE?" WONDERED KURAISHI*.
WHY DID YOU START WITH ME?!
THOKK
HI-YAH!

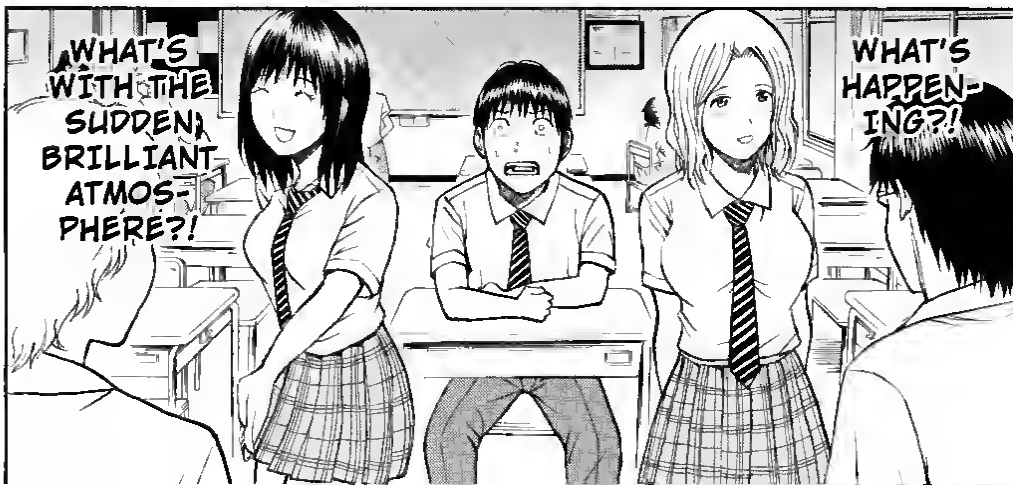
**"SCHOOL☆WARS," A TV SHOW ABOUT A QUICK-TO-CRY P.E. TEACHER COACHING A RUGBY TEAM, AIRED FROM 1984 - 85

THUNK
YO!
ALLEY...
OOP!
D... DOBA-SHI.
HEH HEH HEH.
THAT WAS FUN, WASN'T IT? THE CREATIVE DANCE EXHIBITION...
HUH? OH, YEAH...
I NEVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT ITOU HAD A TALENT FOR THAT SORT OF THING.
WHAT THE?
~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~
WHAT DOES DOBA-SHI WANT WITH ME?
SAY, AO-SHIMA... ARE YOU DOING ANY-THING...
THIS SUNDAY?
HUH?
WHAT IS GOING ON?!
ME?
YEAH.
WHAT'S HE GOT UP HIS SLEEVE? WHY'S HE ASKING ME THIS?
~~~~

WHAT THE? WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAP-PEN HERE?!
W-WELL...
NO...I GUESS I'M NOT DOING ANY-THING SUNDAY, REALLY...
OH?
THEN...
YOU WANNA GO TO THE MOVIES WITH ME?
HUH?
WHY ?!!!
THE MOV-IES?
YEAH.
WHY DO YOU, A GUY WHO'S POPULAR WITH THE WHOLE CLASS WANT...
TO GO TO THE MOVIES WITH ME, THE BOTTOM OF THE PROVERBIAL BARREL?!
THE MOVIES.
OH, YOU DON'T WANT TO?
SHAKE
SHAKE
NO, NO! THAT'S NOT IT! THAT'S NOT IT!
ALL RIGHT! THAT SETTLES IT!
HUH ?!

NORMALLY, SHE'D NEVER EVEN CONSIDER TALKING TO ME...
SHE'S IN THE TOP CLASS OF THE CLASS HIERARCHY!!
I WISH I COULD GO TO THE MOVIES TOO.
LUCKY DOGS.
S-SAORI IKEDA?!
IKEDA-SAN WANTS TO COME TOO.
IS THAT OKAY WITH YOU, AO-SHIMA?
OH! YES!
OF COURSE !!!!
YOU GUYS GOING SOME-WHERE?
HUH? WHAT'S UP?
SHUUUUUU
I'VE GOT ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON!!
WOO-HOO! ☆
I BUILT MYSELF A SHACK AND LIVED AN HONEST LIFE...
I'VE BEEN HERE AT ZAI-SHOU HIGH FOR 2 YEARS.
EVER HAPPEN TO ME.
I LIVED MY LIFE THINK-ING FOR SURE NOTHING GLAMOR-OUS WOULD...
LET US COME TOO.
WH WHAT THE?
THE CLASS HOTTIE ARMY

A ROYAL BALL AND THE ASAKUSA SAMBA CARNIVAL HAVE BOTH SPRUNG UP AROUND ME AT THE SAME TIME?!
SO WHY DO I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE...


WHAT'S WITH THE SUDDEN, BRILLIANT ATMOS-PHERE?!
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?!

*DOCUMENTARY ABOUT THE FISHERMEN AROUND THE NAGARAGAWA DAM **HORROR FILM ABOUT KILLER SUSHI

HANG ON, IDIOT! WE SHOULD GO TO MUSASHINO THEATER IN SHINJUKU AND SEE "DEAD SUSHI***"!

I'M TELLING YOU "NAGARAGAWA DOKONJO**" AT PORE-PORE HIGASHI-NAGANO IS HOT NOW!

IF THIS WERE THE DX CORPS:

AS IF!

HOW ABOUT "EVA"?

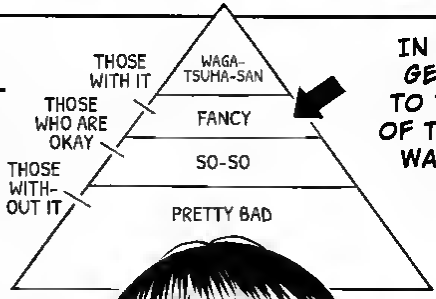
"UMIZARU*" AT THE ROPPONGI CINEMA, OF COURSE!

WHICH MOVIE ARE WE GONNA SEE?

THEY'RE EVEN TALKING FANCY!

*ACTION FILM ABOUT RESCUE DIVERS

SHOULD I NOT FIRST GET FRIENDLY WITH THESE PEOPLE?!




IN ORDER TO GET CLOSER TO THE RULER OF THIS CLASS, WAGATSUMA-SAN...

AHHH...HOW I LONG FOR THE DX CORPS...

...BUT !!!!

THINKING ABOUT CASTING THE DX CORPS ASIDE AND JOINING THE FANCY ARMY?

WHICH MEANS... AM I NOW AT THE STAGE WHERE I SHOULD START...

IT FEELS LIKE SOMEONE'S WATCHING ME...

WHAT THE?

SHUDDER

RIGHT, AOSHIMA?

HUH?!

YEAH!

WHAT WAS THE QUESTION?!

RMB
RMB
RMB
RMB
RMB
RMB
EEEE-
EEEE-
EEEK!!
E...
DINK
視聴覚室
"A.V. ROOM"

THE MEANING OF THE WORLD "IDEOLOGY"?
DO YOU KNOW...
PLOP
どおん
NO...
AOSHIMA-KUN...
MAYBE I SHOULD CALL YOU "FORMER COMRADE AOSHIMA," INSTEAD.
ALL THAT AWAITS TRAITORS...
IS...
DEATH.
FWIP
スッ
WHAM
ドゴ

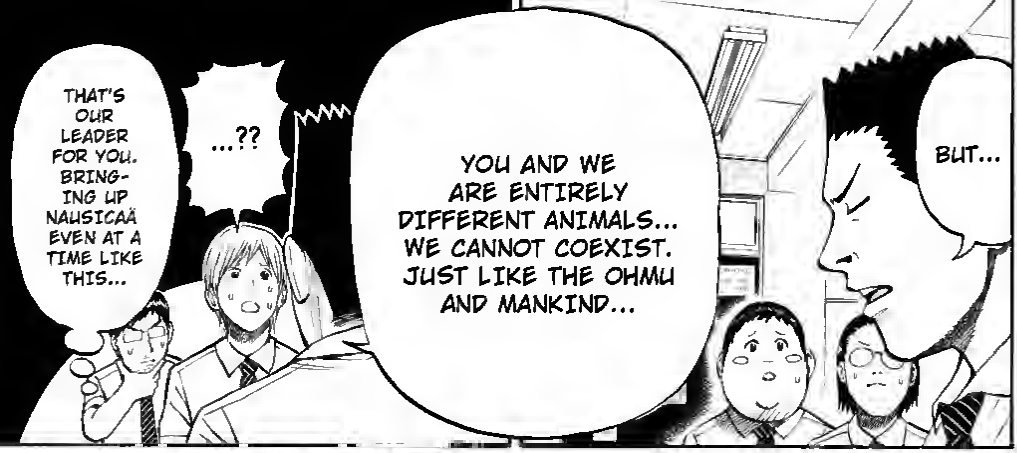
WELL THEN, LET'S GET THIS EXECUTION STARTED!
TICKETS, PLEASE.
WANT ME TO MAKE A WAX SCULPTURE OUT OF YOU?
WHOA! WHAT ARE YOU GUYS SUPPOSED TO BE?!!!
WELL, WE FIGURED WE'D BETTER COME IN SCARY COSTUMES.
NO... THIS ISN'T HALLOWEEN.
AND WHY ARE YOU WEARING AN EIDAN SUBWAY WORKER UNIFORM?!
OH...I THOUGHT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO COME IN UNIFORM.
DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN, AOSHIMA!!
YEOUCH!!
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS, AOSHIMA.
AH!! ISN'T THAT...?!!!
HMM? WHAT IS IT?
HEH HEH HEH.
THAT'S RIGHT.

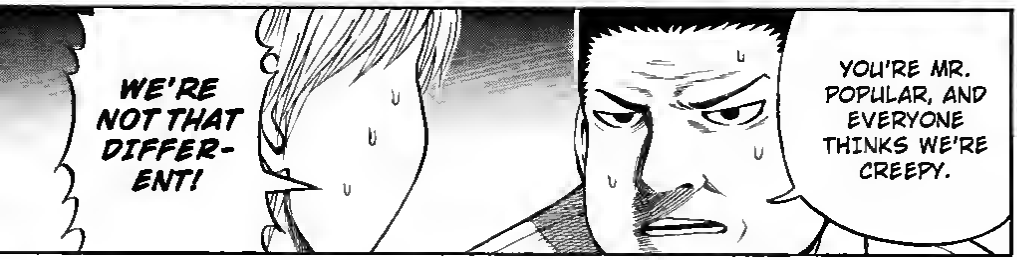
SEE? I KNEW YOU GUYS KNEW HOW TO HAVE FUN.
DON'T SULLY RINA!
STOP!
(RINA KATOU*)
HUH?! RIGHT HERE?!
STARTING NOW, I'M GONNA JERK OFF TO THIS LIKE CRAZY!
UHAHAHA! うはは
THIS IS YOUR FPD* !!!!
*FAVORITE PORNO DVD
*PORN STAR
ENGAGE! ENGAGE THE ENEMY!
御用
WE'RE UNDER ATTACK !!!!
DO-BA-SHI !!!!
D-D-
WHA?! HEY!!
YOU WERE HERE THE LAST TIME I CAME TOO. IS THIS YOUR HIDE-OUT OR SOMETHING?
HEY, UH...
D
IT'S NO USE, KOMATSU! HE DIDN'T SEE CHOSHU* AT THE JUNE 30, 2000 EBINA TOURNAMENT!!
HE DIDN'T SEE HIS LEGENDARY SCENE WITH ONITA!!
HUH? WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?
STAY OUT!
STAY OUT!
STAY OUT!
*RIKI, CHOSHU, WRESTLER

HEY, FUJI-Q!! YOU FATTY !!!!
HUH? WHY NOT?
OUT OF THE QUES-TION!
NO, NO, NO, NO!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
CAN I...
COME HANG OUT WITH YOU GUYS SOME-TIMES?
はっ
GASP
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT THE DX CORPS IS A GROUP FOR ENVYING DOBASHI?!
WITH AN "X" THROUGH DOBASHI'S "D"
OH CRAP!!
SO THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS...
WOW...
WHY ARE YOU APPROACHING US NOW?
HMM?
YEAH, BUT...
IF YOU HANG OUT WITH LOSERS LIKE US, THE REST OF THE CLASS IS GO-ING TO THINK YOU'RE A LOSER TOO.

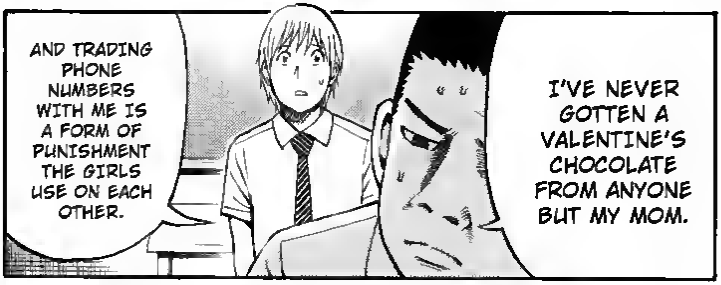
YOU'LL GET MADE FUN OF EVERY DAY, DUDE.
AND YOU'LL FEEL ASHAMED
HUH? I'M KIND OF MAKING MYSELF FEEL BAD...
NOTHING GOOD'LL COME OUT OF IT.
YEAH, YOU SHOULD QUIT WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD.
I'M JUST KIND OF...
TIRED OF IT ALL.
SCARED TO DEATH OF BEING KICKED OUT OF THE GROUP...
SO THEY'RE CONSTANTLY WALKING ON EGGSHELLS...
THEY'RE ALL DESPERATELY TRYING TO PROVE THEY'RE NOT "WEIRDOS"...
THE GUYS I HANG OUT WITH NOW ARE, HONESTLY, KIND OF BORING.
HUH?
LETTING IT ALL HANG OUT...
NOW THAT'S FREEDOM...
YOU GUYS HAVE IT GOOD...

JUST EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE IS FINE.
I WAS SERIOUSLY A LITTLE IMPRESSED.
LIKE THE CREATIVE DANCE THE OTHER DAY...
WHEN WE DID THAT, I THOUGHT, "THIS IS SOMETHING THOSE GUYS WHO'RE ONLY WORRIED ABOUT DESPERATELY CHASING THE LATEST TRENDS WOULD'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF."
SO WOULD IT BE OKAY IF I CAME TO HANG OUT WITH YOU GUYS SOMETIMES?
...
IT'S FINE WITH ME.
YEAH...
WELL, WHEN YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT...
DON'T SAY THAT ABOUT YOURSELF...
YES, AS YOU SAY, WE ARE THE GREATEST.
BOO! BOO!
WHY NOT?!
YEAH, WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?!
YOU'RE RIGHT...
IT'S NOT.
NO.
KOMATSU!!

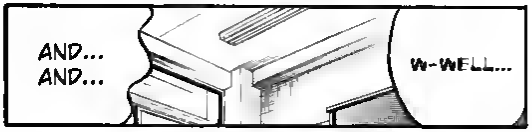

THAT'S OUR LEADER FOR YOU. BRING-ING UP NAUSICAÄ EVEN AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
...??
YOU AND WE ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT ANIMALS... WE CANNOT COEXIST. JUST LIKE THE OHMU AND MANKIND...
BUT...


WE'RE NOT THAT DIFFER-ENT!
YOU'RE MR. POPULAR, AND EVERYONE THINKS WE'RE CREEPY.

AHHH! THERE YOU ARE, YUUKI!
HMM?

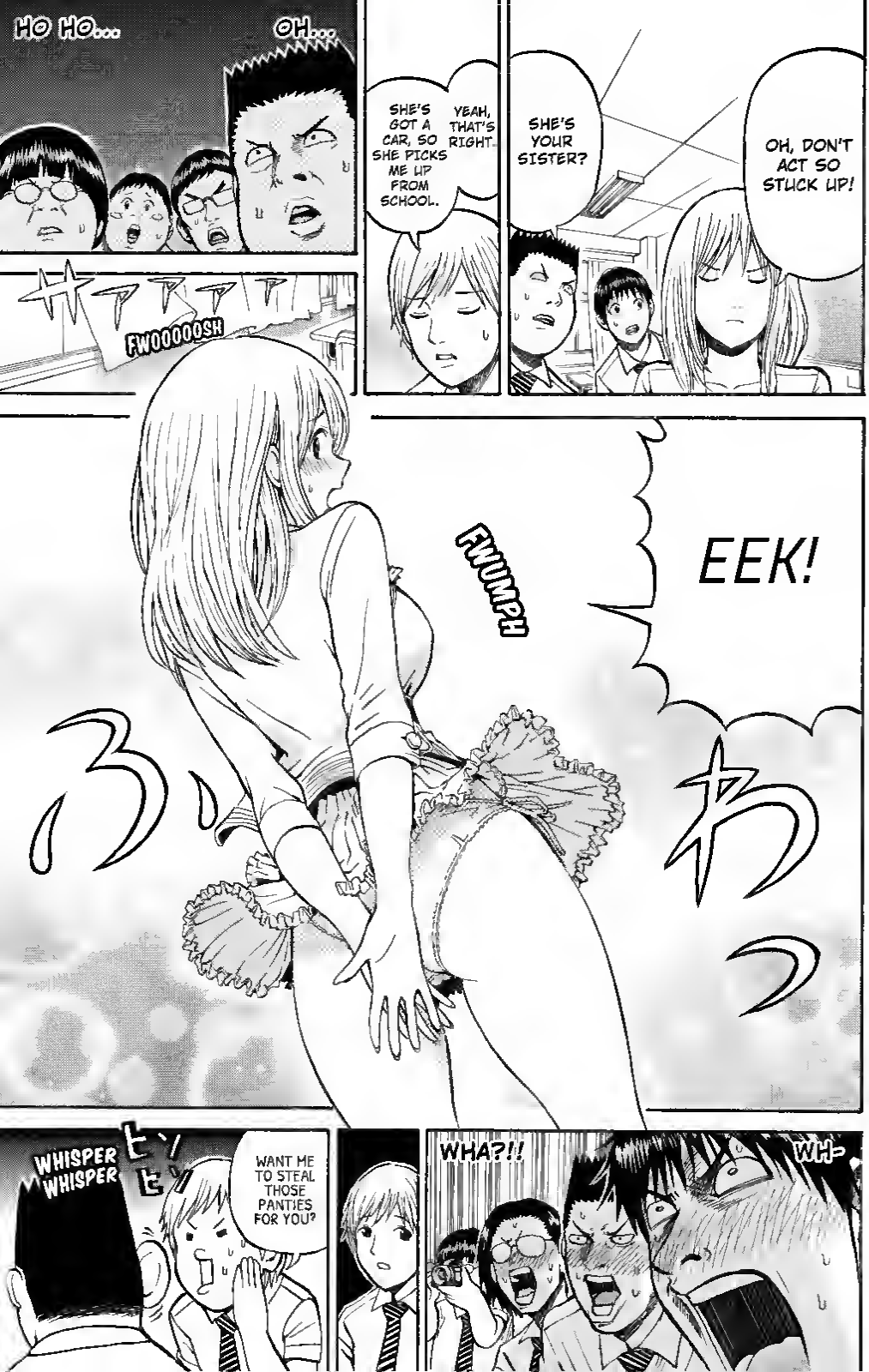

AND TRADING PHONE NUMBERS WITH ME IS A FORM OF PUNISHMENT THE GIRLS USE ON EACH OTHER.
I'VE NEVER GOTTEN A VALENTINE'S CHOCOLATE FROM ANYONE BUT MY MOM.

B... BUT...

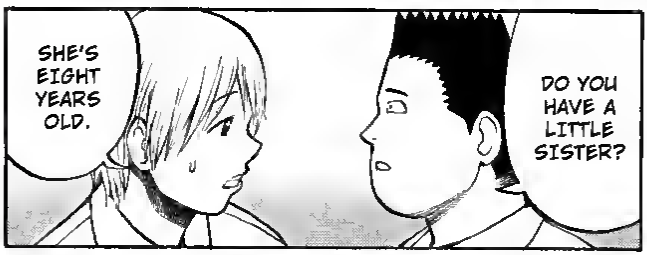

AND... AND...
W-WELL...

...
THAT'S ENOUGH, LEADER! PLEASE STOP HURTING YOUR-SELF!!
...THE GIRLS ALWAYS SPRAY ANYTHING I TOUCH WITH FEBREZE !!!!

I CAME TO PICK YOU UP!
GRAB
HEY! NOT SO FAST!
LET'S GO HOME ALREADY!
HANG ON! I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW!
WHY YOU!! I'LL MURDE-LIZE YA!!
THAT'S WHAT WE HATE ABOUT YOU!
FUJI-Q! OFF WITH HIS HEAD!
BE-☆ HEAD HIM!!
HUH?
GO HOME WITH-OUT ME, SIS!


HO HO...
OH...
SHE'S GOT A CAR, SO SHE PICKS ME UP FROM SCHOOL.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
SHE'S YOUR SISTER?
OH, DON'T ACT SO STUCK UP!
FWOOOOOSH
FWUMPH
EEK!
WHISPER WHISPER
WANT ME TO STEAL THOSE PANTIES FOR YOU?
WHA?!!
WHA

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU, JUNIOR MEMBER DOBASHI.
THANK YOU, SIR.
NO WAY?!
カニ ャ SNAP
カニ ャ SNAP


DO YOU HAVE A LITTLE SISTER?
SHE'S EIGHT YEARS OLD.

WAIT A MINUTE, KOMATSU! ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY TO LET HIM IN FOR THAT REASON?!
YEAH! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE IRON LAW OF THE DX CORPS?!

AND SO DOBASHI'S ADMISSION TO THE DX CORPS WAS SETTLED.
HUUUUH?!
YOU FRIGGIN PEDO!
BROTH-ER-IN-LAW!!
WHUMP!

# PART 17
# JUST LIKE A DREAM

COME TO THINK OF IT, THIS COMIC IS SUPPOSED TO BE A TIME SLIP ROMCOM, ISN'T IT? I TOTALLY FORGOT.
IS...
IS THIS...?
HMM?

OH YEAH!!
MY FIRST TIME SLIP IN A WHILE!!!!
T.S. ACTIVE

I HAVEN'T TIME SLIPPED AT ALL RECENTLY...
SO I WAS STARTING TO THINK I LOST THE ABILITY.

HMM?
WAGATSUMA-SAN ISN'T HERE.
WHERE'D SHE GO?

ALL RIGHT! I'M GONNA CUDDLE THE HECK OUT OF WAGATSUMA-SAN!!

AT THIS POINT...I MIGHT EVEN GO FOR A KISS!

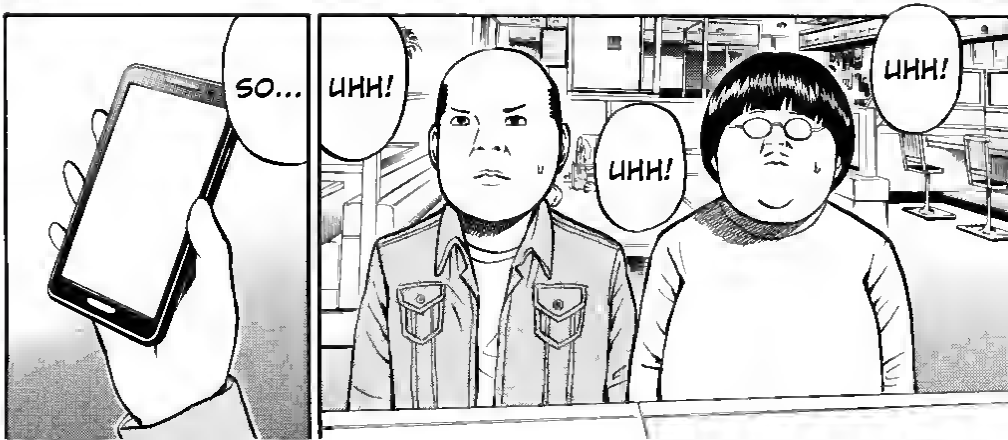
KER-CHUNK
カ
チャ
HUFF
HUFF
OH, OUT ON THE TOWN, WERE YOU?
OPPRESSIVE ATMOSPHERE?
HUH? WHAT'S WITH THIS...
FWIP
OH...
WEL-COME HOME, AI-S...

WHAT THE?
HUH?
WHAT'S...
GOING ON?
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
THUNK
DON'T TELL ME...
SHE'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE NORMAL FUTURE WAGA-TSUMA-SAN....
KREEK
KREEK
THAT WAS SO...CURT... I GUESS YOU COULD CALL IT...

UM... AI-SAN?
UH...
DID SHE GO TO BED AL-READY?
HUH ?
IT'S PITCH BLACK!
WHOA!
カチャ...
KER-CHUNK
...
DON'T COME NEAR ME.
THUNK
//
ロ...

I'VE BEEN REJECTED...
I'VE BEEN REJECTED.
IT'S...
ALL OVER.
DON'T COME NEAR ME.
BAM

Donny's
in
UHH!
→HIC←
UHH!
→HIC←


SO...
UHH!
UHH!
UHH!

I'M GONNA JUMP IN FRONT OF A TRAIN...
I...
HOW EXACTLY DO YOU PLAN ON DYING?
Itou, Komatsu
No Subject
I'M GONNA DIE!! FAREWELL, CRUEL WORLD!!
DON'T DO IT, MAN. THINK ABOUT ALL THOSE HARD-WORKING PEOPLE THAT'LL BE INCONVENIENCED IF THE TRAINS ARE STOPPED BECAUSE OF YOU.
I CAN GO ON LIVING!
わぁ
WAH!!!
WELL... IT'S NOT LIKE...
DRINK BAR
SO... WHAT'S THE LADY MAD ABOUT?
THIS IS WHAT YOU GET FOR BEING MARRIED, MORON.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE SO WORKED UP OVER A LITTLE ARGUMENT WITH YOUR WIFE.

I'VE GOT ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA! THAT'S THE PROBLEM!
MAN, YOU'RE GETTING ANNOY-ING...
OH... I BET IT'S THAT, YOU KNOW?
YOU BET IT'S WHAT?!!!
TURN 7
JEEZ, AO-SHIMA-KUN! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FORGOT OUR ANNIVER-SARY!
OH...I'M SORRY, AI.
EXCUSE ME!!
OH, I JUST GOT THE SUDDEN URGE TO SEE THE INSIDE OF YOUR HEADS.
BUT ISN'T THAT PRETTY MUCH WHAT NEWLYWED HOMELIFE IS LIKE?
YES, SIR? WHAT IS YOUR ORDER?
I'D LIKE TO ORDER YOUR BLUNTEST OBJECT AND THE CLOSEST THING YOU'VE GOT TO A CROWBAR.
WHOA NOW!! WHAT ARE YOU PLAN-NING TO DO WITH THOSE?!!!
YOU REALLY THINK I'D FOR-GET OUR WEDDING ANNIVER... SARY...
...HMM?

WHEN IS MY ANNI-VER-SARY ?!!!!
HOW AM I SUP-POSED TO KNOW ?!!!
HAND ME YOUR WEDDING RING.
RING ?
I KNOW. JUST GIVE IT HERE AL-READY.
HMM? WHOA, I'M WEAR-ING A WEDDING RING!!
THIS IS PROBABLY IT. JUNE 24TH...
HALF A YEAR FROM NOW...
A JUNE BRIDE!!
WHAM
NOW THAT YOU'VE REMINDED ME, I'M GETTING TICKED!
DANG IT... NOW YOU GUYS ARE GET-TING MAD AT ME...
THAT'S RIGHT! YOU GUYS HAD THAT OUTDOOR WEDDING SMACK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RAINY SEASON, AND WE ALL GOT SOAKED!!

IF YOU DIDN'T FORGET YOUR ANNIVERSARY...
MAYBE YOU BROKE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO HER?
SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO HER?
WHAT COULD THAT BE?
PROBABLY THOSE, RIGHT? HER DRAMA DVDS.
YEAH, THAT COULD BE IT.
HUH? SHE'S GOT THOSE?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! WHEN WE MOVED YOU IN, MOST OF THE BOXES WERE FULL OF DRAMA DVDS AND OLD VHS TAPES!!
NOT ONLY DOES SHE HAVE THE THIRTEEN-VOLUME DELUXE EDITION OF "MITO KOMON," BUT "OOKA ECHIZEN," "SLASHING EDO*"...
AND THE "KINPACHI-SENSEI*" COMPLETE BOX SETS!
*DRAMA ABOUT A MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER
*HISTORICAL DRAMAS
HUH?! SHE'S GOT THAT MANY?!
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE HAD THOSE...
COME TO THINK OF IT, WAGATSUMA-SAN DOES LIKE TV DRAMAS..
AND THAT'S NOT ALL!!

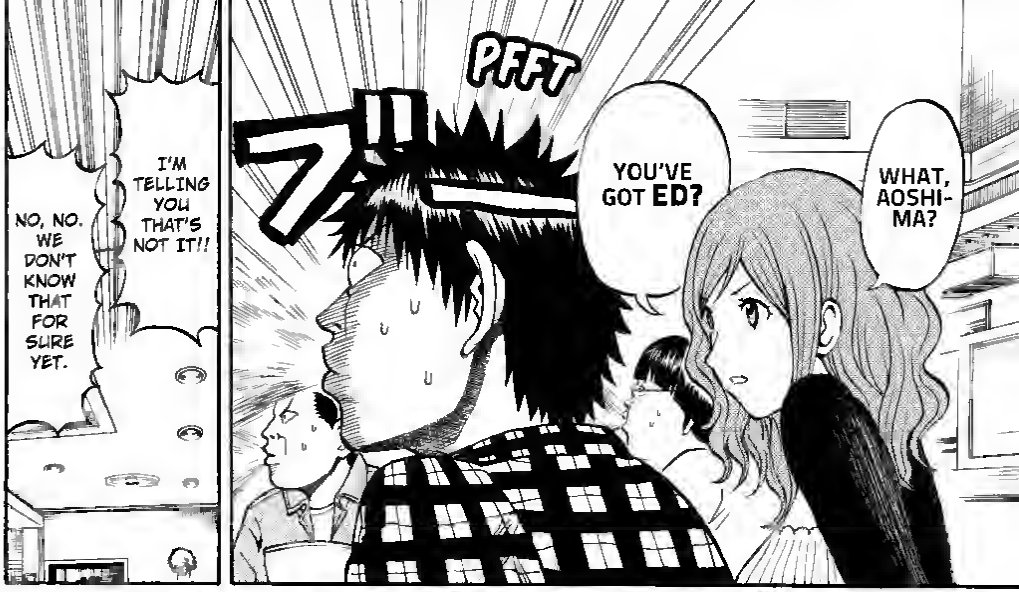
SHE EVEN HAD THE ONLY PART OF THE SERIES TO BE RELEASED ON DVD, "WOMAN OF THE CRIME LAB '06*."
SHE HAD "INVESTIGATOR MARIKO," AND THE SEQUEL "WOMAN OF THE CRIME LAB," TOO.
*CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DRAMAS
YEAH, SHE'S A TRULY FEARSOME LADY.
SHE HAD ASAHI TV'S ENTIRE RUN OF "ROUGE LAWYER SHIROU TATSUMI*" ON VHS.
THAT LINEUP MAKES YOU WANT TO ASK IF SHE'S A 30-50-YEAR-OLD WOMAN, HUH?
NOT TO MENTION "OMIYA-SAN" AND "NEW OMIYA-SAN*"...
*DETECTIVE SERIES STARRING TSUNEHIKO WATASE
*LEGAL DRAMA
SHE'S EVEN GOT THOSE?!
AND THE CHERRIES THAT CROWN THE COLLECTION ARE "KYOTO MAZE GUIDE" AND "NEW KYOTO MAZE GUIDE*" ON VHS.
*MYSTERY SERIES
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE ALL INTACT...
I'LL GO CHECK!
YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T BREAK ANY OF THOSE?

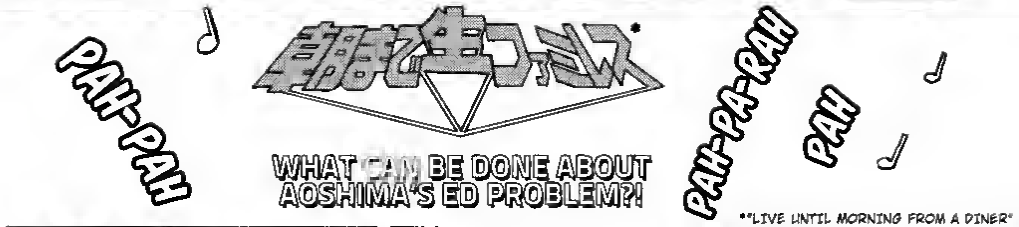
A WO-MAN?
CHEAT-ING, MAN. CHEAT-ING.
THAT JUST LEAVES...
...A WOMAN.
WHAT?! TH-THERE'S NO WAY I'D CHEAT ON HER!!
EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T, SHE MIGHT SUSPECT YOU DID. THAT'S WHAT I MEAN.
OH, YEAH. I COULD SEE THAT.
I MEAN, YOU AND SILVIA'VE ALWAYS BEEN PRETTY CLOSE.
SIL-VIA?!
HUH? DID YOU AND SILVIA BOINK, MAN?
ARE YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T BONE SILVIA, AOSHI-MA?!
YOU'LL FEEL A LOT BETTER ONCE YOU GET IT OFF YOUR CHEST, SON.
I REALLY DON'T KNOW, OFFICER !!!!
OF COURSE NOT!
ARE YOU SURE ?

THUNK...
ONE SAN-GENTON PORK KATSUDON*.
*DISH OF FRIED PORK SERVED OVER A BOWL OF RICE ASSOCIATED WITH INTERROGATING SUSPECTS IN JAPANESE DETECTIVE SHOWS
モグ MOM
モグ MOM
MOM
HERE... IT'S KATSUDON. EAT UP...
WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ME... I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG, BUT EATING THIS IS MAKING ME FEEL LIKE MAYBE I AM GUILTY...
YOU DID IT! YOU DID, DIDN'T YOU?!
OH? WHAT IS IT, KOMA-TSU?
IS THIS SILVIA SHIMO-TSUMA?
ALL RIGHT! I'LL FIND OUR SMOK-ING GUN!
HITOSHI AOSHIMA! I AM PLACING YOU UNDER ARREST UNDER SUSPICION OF THE CRIME OF ADULTERY!!
KER-CHARRS

DID YOU BANG AO-SHIMA?
CHAK
BEEP BEEP
SHE HUNG UP ON ME.
I FIG-URED AS MUCH.
VROOOOM
SKREEEEEK
THUNK
KLANK-A-KLANG
WHAPP
SHE'S HERE AL-READY?!
どか
PLOP
HUH... THEN WHAT DOES THAT LEAVE?
I'M NOT SURE...
THEN LET'S GET SOMEONE HERE WHO UNDER-STANDS THE FEMALE HEART.
WHY DON'T WE JUST ASK SILVIA?

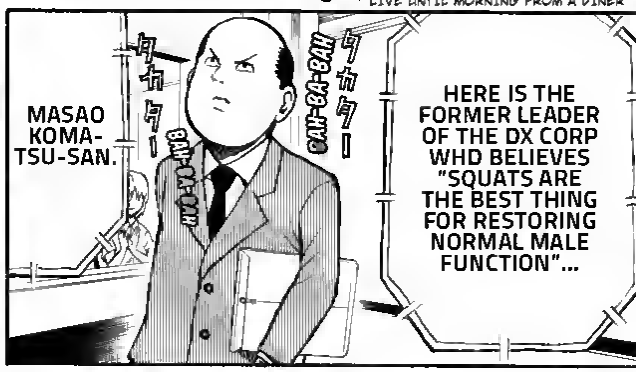
LEGENDARY PORN STAR:
HAYABUSA KATOU!!
WE'VE BEEN GOING OUT TO DRINK A LOT LATELY.
WHAT... HE A FRIEND OF YOURS?
?
WH... WHEN DID THOSE TWO BECOME FRIENDS?!
I'M AMAZED HE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE FOR THIS CRAP...
HMM, I SEE...
SO YOUR WIFE'S MAD AT YOU, EH?
YOU MUST BE 'LESS, RIGHT?
SEX-LESS.
PFFT
NUH-N-N... NO, I DON'T THINK SO!!
PROB-ABLY!

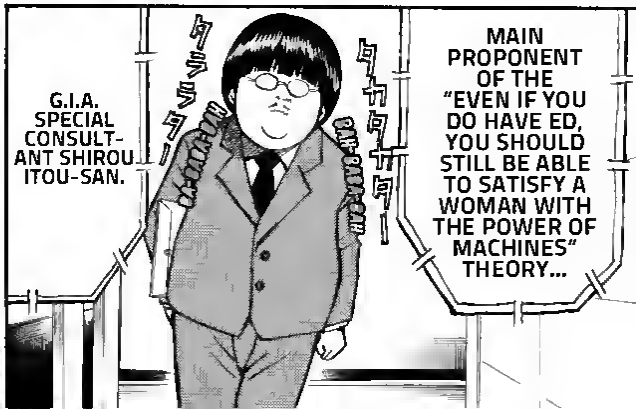


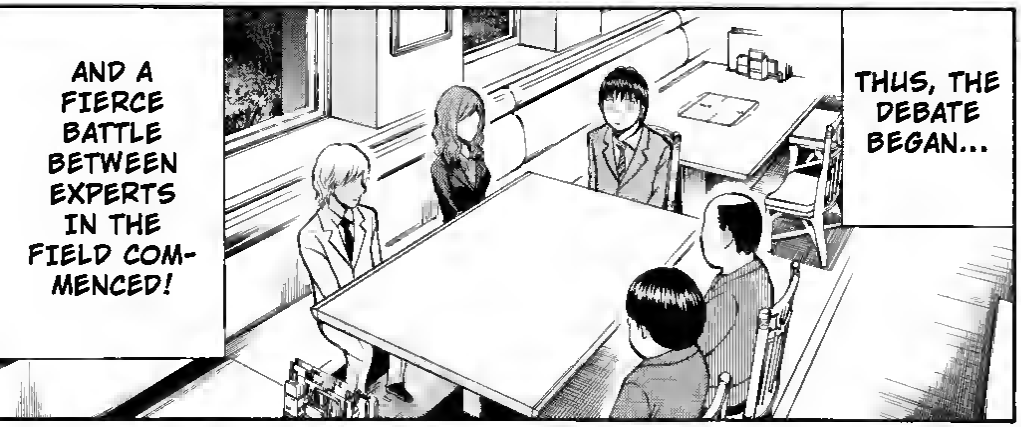

**"LIVE UNTIL MORNING FROM A DINER"

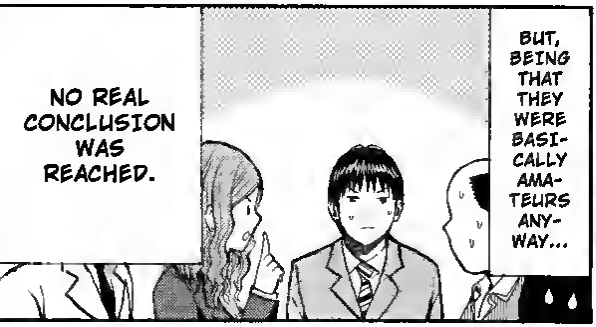
THE WOMAN WHO THINKS OF THE ED PROBLEM FROM MULTIPLE ANGLES, SILVIA SHIMO-TSUMA-SAN.
"TO THE REST OF THE WORLD, JAPANESE COMMON SENSE IS UNCOMMON SENSE."


MASAO KOMA-TSU-SAN.
HERE IS THE FORMER LEADER OF THE DX CORP WHO BELIEVES "SQUATS ARE THE BEST THING FOR RESTORING NORMAL MALE FUNCTION"...


G.I.A. SPECIAL CONSULT-ANT SHIROU ITOU-SAN.
MAIN PROPONENT OF THE "EVEN IF YOU DO HAVE ED, YOU SHOULD STILL BE ABLE TO SATISFY A WOMAN WITH THE POWER OF MACHINES" THEORY...

HITOSHI AOSHI-MA-SAN!
AND OUR M.C. FOR THE NIGHT:
THE LEGEND-ARY PORN STAR: HAYA-BUSA KATOU-SAN!!
NEXT, THE WOMEN HE HAS SLEPT WITH ARE SAID TO NUMBER IN THE THOUSANDS, AND THE VOLUME OF FLUID HE HAS CAUSED TO BE SQUIRTED WOULD FILL THE TOKYO DOME FIVE TIMES!


AND A FIERCE BATTLE BETWEEN EXPERTS IN THE FIELD COM-MENCED!
THUS, THE DEBATE BEGAN...


NO REAL CONCLUSION WAS REACHED.
BUT, BEING THAT THEY WERE BASI-CALLY AMA-TEURS ANY-WAY...

ALL I DID WAS GOOF OFF WITH MY FRIENDS UNTIL MORNING...
THIS SUCKS.

IT WAS SO INTENSE, IT MADE YOUNG SUGAWARA-KUN, THE PART-TIMER, THINK, "JEEZ, SHUT UP AND DO THAT AT HOME..."
BULLET VIBE EFFICIENCY
SO-SO
GOOD

THIS IS BAD...
WHAT'M I GONNA DO IF SHE'S STILL MAD...?
KEE-CHUNK
カチャ
OH... GOOD MORN-ING!
MY COLD WENT AWAY!
HUH?
YOUR COLD ?
YEP.
I TOLD YOU TO STAY AWAY FROM ME LAST NIGHT SO YOU WOULDN'T CATCH IT...BUT WHERE IN THE WORLD DID YOU RUN OFF TO?
THIS WAS THE MOMENT AOSHIMA REALIZ-ED...
SUMP
へな
SUMP
へな
?
"MARRIED LIFE ISN'T ALL FUN AND GAMES..."

# PART 18
# Brown Sugar

KNOWN AS "YING" AND "YANG."

OUR COSMOS CONSISTS OF TWO OPPOSING FORCES...

"BABA" AND "INOKI!"

"GIANTS" AND "TIGERS!"

"BLACK" AND "WHITE!"

"MAN" AND "WOMAN!"

"LIGHT" AND "DARK!"

THESE FORCES GO BY MANY NAMES:

*"GIANT BABA" AND "INOKI" = WRESTLERS, THE "YOMIURI GIANTS" AND "HANSHIN TIGERS" = BASEBALL RIVALS

THEN WE HAVE ADULT PC GAMES!

THE SO-CALLED ***HENTAI GAME*** WORLD IS ALSO BORN OF THESE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED FORCES!!

I SEE. SO WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY IS...

THESE TWO ARE INCOMPATIBLE OPPOSITES.

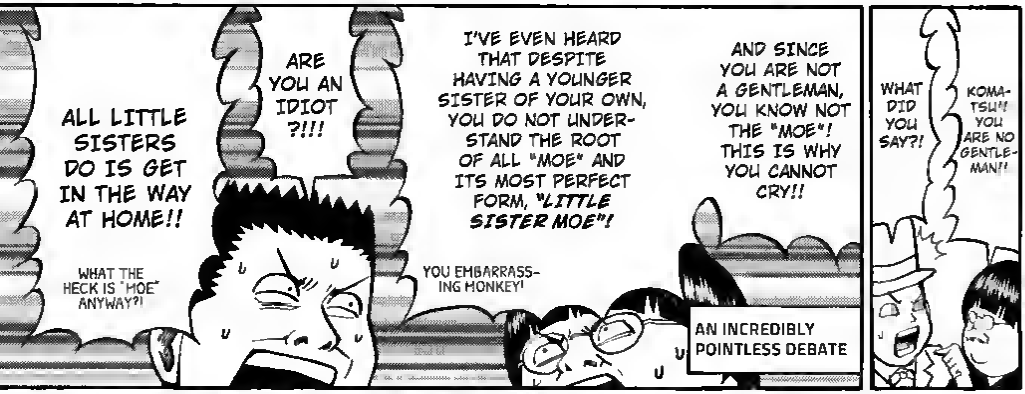
STRESS PRACTICALITY!! VERY DIRTY!! LUDICROUSLY DIRTY!! HENTAI GAMES WHICH PURSUE EROS ABOVE ALL ELSE. ANYTHING ELSE IS CONSIDERED AN IMPURITY!

@#%&-JERKERS !!!!

TEAR-JERKERS !!!!

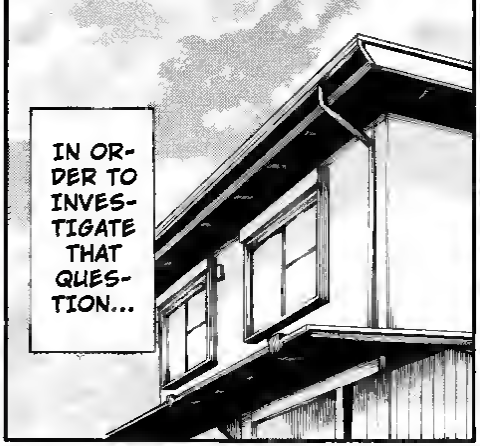
STRESS STORY!! MANY MOVING SCENES. HENTAI GAMES SPECIALIZED IN MAKING THE PLAYER CRY AND STIMULATING "MOE" TOWARDS THE CHARACTERS.

YOU @#%&-JERKER FANS ARE ALWAYS TRYING TO FORCE YOUR FILTHY DESIRES ON ALL HENTAI GAMES!!
THEY'RE NOT HENTAI GAMES WITHOUT HENTAI, ARE THEY?! WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID?!
THIS:
DON OF TEAR-JERKERS
ITOU
MR. @#%&-JERKER
KOMATSU


ALL LITTLE SISTERS DO IS GET IN THE WAY AT HOME!!
ARE YOU AN IDIOT ?!!!
WHAT THE HECK IS "MOE" ANYWAY?!
I'VE EVEN HEARD THAT DESPITE HAVING A YOUNGER SISTER OF YOUR OWN, YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE ROOT OF ALL "MOE" AND ITS MOST PERFECT FORM, "LITTLE SISTER MOE"!
YOU EMBARRASSING MONKEY!
AND SINCE YOU ARE NOT A GENTLEMAN, YOU KNOW NOT THE "MOE"! THIS IS WHY YOU CANNOT CRY!!
AN INCREDIBLY POINTLESS DEBATE
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
KOMATSU!! YOU ARE NO GENTLEMAN!!

*REAL-LIFE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SHOULDN'T PLAY ADULT GAMES. YOU HEAR ME?!

THAT'S RIGHT! NO OBJECTIONS HERE!
BUT IF YOU'VE GOT A LITTLE SISTER, DON'T YOU GET TO SPEND YOUR DAYS IN A CONSTANT STATE OF EXCITEMENT AND MOE?!



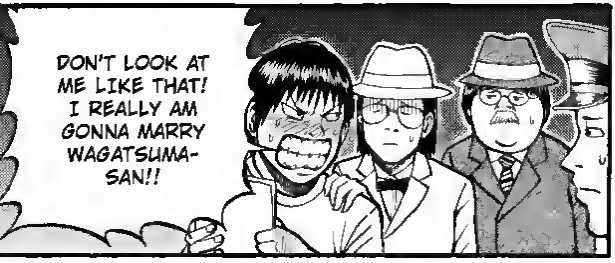
WHY DID YOU COME TO MY HOUSE?
IN THE YEAR 2013, THE LYTTON DX COMMISSION* ENTERED THE AOSHIMA RESIDENCE.
DOES "LITTLE SISTER MOE" EXIST OR NOT?! HISTORY MOVED THAT DAY!!

*THE LYTTON COMMISSION: A GROUP CHARGED BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS TO INVESTIGATE THE MUKDEN INCIDENT, WHICH HAD LED TO IMPERIAL JAPAN'S SEIZURE OF MANCHURIA IN 1931.

DON'T COME TO ME WITH THAT REASONING!!
THE ONLY DX CORPS MEMBERS WITH LITTLE SISTERS WERE AOSHIMA AND KOMATSU, BUT KOMATSU'S IS ONLY A YEAR YOUNGER THAN HIM, SO SHE IS RATHER LACKING IN THE "LITTLE" SISTER SENSE, WHICH LEFT US WITH ONLY ONE CHOICE, THE AOSHIMA RESIDENCE, AS OUR TARGET.

AHHH?! DANG IT, FUJI-Q!!
YIKES.
WOW, AND LOOK AT ALL THE PORTRAITS OF WAGATSUMA-SAN OVER HERE!

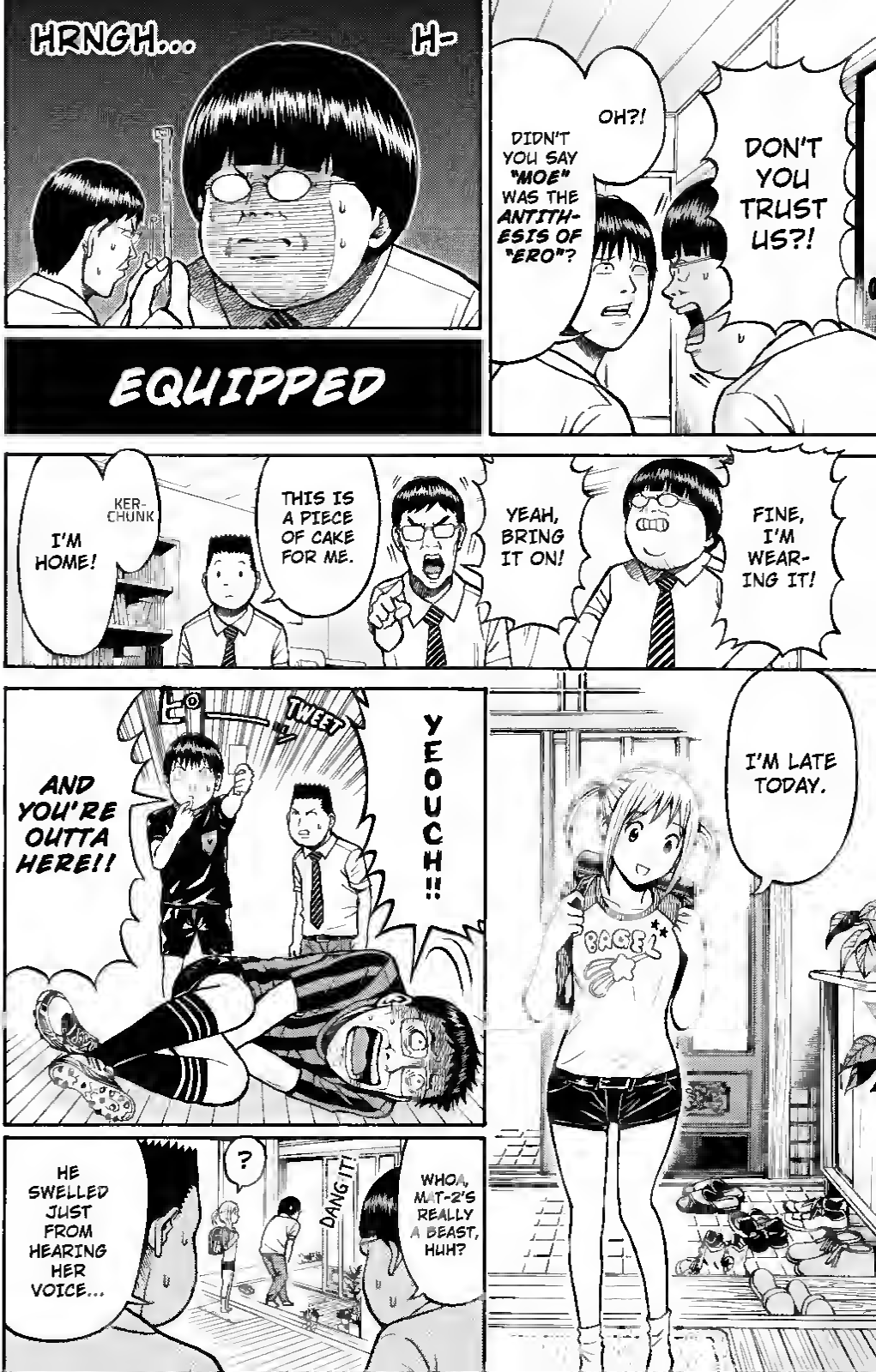
CUT IT OUT! LEAVE MY PORN ALONE!
YES! WE MUST TAKE THIS BACK TO OUR HOME COUNTRY TO EXAMINE IT RIGHT AWAY!!
MY WORD! WHAT HAVE WE HERE?!


DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT! I REALLY AM GONNA MARRY WAGATSUMA-SAN!!

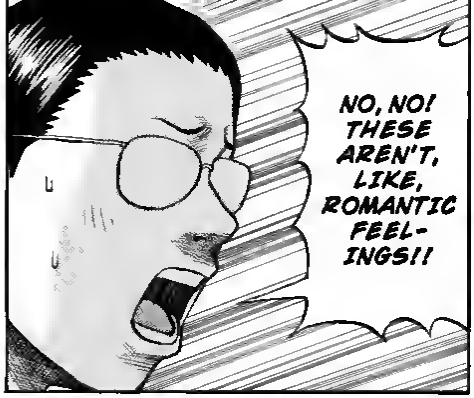
WHAT?! ARE YOU JERKS LONELY OR SOMETHING?!
THE COMMISSION STUBBORNLY REFUSED TO HEED THE CALL TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME COUNTRY.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU GUYS?! SERIOUSLY, JUST GO HOME ALREADY!

THE LITTLE SISTER MOE RESEARCHER LORD SHIROU ITOU!!
LORD ITOU!
BAM
SHOO! SHOO!
PERVERTS GO HOME!
YOU'RE PLANNING TO OGLE MY SISTER, AREN'T YOU?!
THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, AOSHIMA-KUN.
LISTEN HERE, AOSHIMA-KUN.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
IN SHORT, "MOE" IS THE ANTITHESIS OF "ERO."
A TRUE GENTLEMAN'S PURSUIT.
"MOE" IS, IN OTHER WORDS, "SOOTHING."
MUCH LIKE THE FEELINGS ONE MIGHT EXPERIENCE WHILE TAKING IN THE BIRDS OR THE FLOWERS.
SAY WHAT ?!!!
LET US ATTEMPT TO TEACH THAT GENTLEMAN'S PURSUIT TO THIS GORILLA HERE.

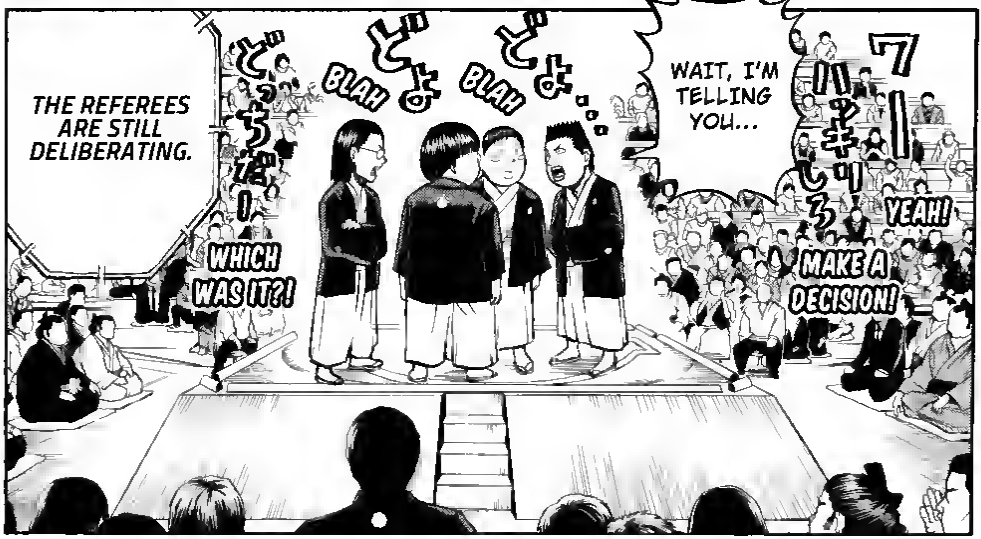
SO YOU'RE SAYING THIS "MOE" ISN'T "ERO" THEN?
EXACTLY! THIS IS NO ERO, BOY! NO ERO!
I SEE.
IN THAT CASE, I HAVE A PROPOSAL OF MY OWN.
HUH? WHAT VOLUME DOES THAT APPEAR IN?
NO, NOT THAT ONE!
THE ONE THAT'S A MONKEY!
NOT THE TORIYAMA ONE! THE CHINESE ONE!
ARE YOU AWARE OF THE GOLDEN RING ON SON GOKU'S HEAD?
I'M GOING TO HAVE YOU BOYS WRAP THESE AROUND THE NECKS OF YOUR NINJA TURTLES.
AND ANYONE WHO COLLAPSES IN AGONY AFTER THEIR NINJA TURTLE SWELLS WILL IMMEDIATELY BE GIVEN A RED CARD.
SAY WHAT ?!!!


HRNGH...
H-
EQUIPPED
DON'T YOU TRUST US?!
OH?!
DIDN'T YOU SAY "MOE" WAS THE ANTITH-ESIS OF "ERO"?
FINE, I'M WEAR-ING IT!
YEAH, BRING IT ON!
THIS IS A PIECE OF CAKE FOR ME.
KER-CHUNK
I'M HOME!
I'M LATE TODAY.
BAGEL
YEOUCH!!
TWEET
AND YOU'RE OUTTA HERE!!
WHOA, M-T-2'S REALLY A BEAST, HUH?
DANG IT!
?
HE SWELLED JUST FROM HEARING HER VOICE...

THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS LOOKING AFTER MY BROTHER.
Y-YEAH.
OH, ARE THESE YOUR FRIENDS, ONII-CHAN?
TU
RN
BAGEL
HU
DAAAAAW
NO, NO...ANY-ONE COULD SAY THAT MUCH.
THIS IS LITTLE SISTER MOE! ISN'T IT GREAT?! DOESN'T IT TUG AT YOUR HEART-STRINGS?!
E... ELECTRIC MEDUSA!!
RIGHT?
I JUST... GOT KIND OF LIGHT-HEADED.
YOU THINK SO?


NO, NO! THESE AREN'T, LIKE, ROMANTIC FEELINGS!!

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, MAN! SHE'S IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!!


THE REFEREES ARE STILL DELIBERATING.
どよ
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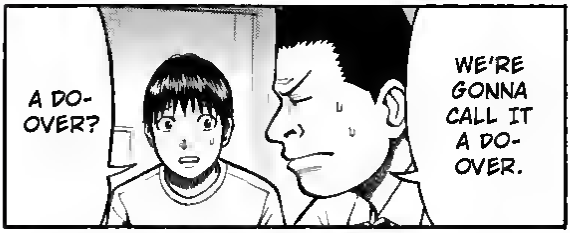
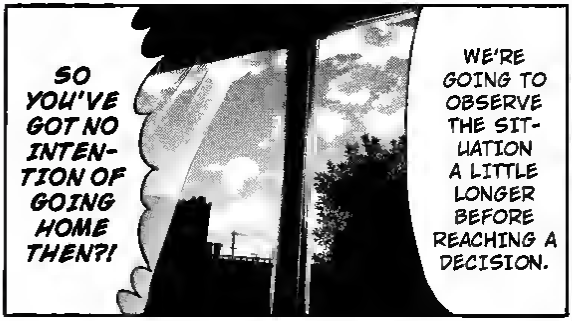
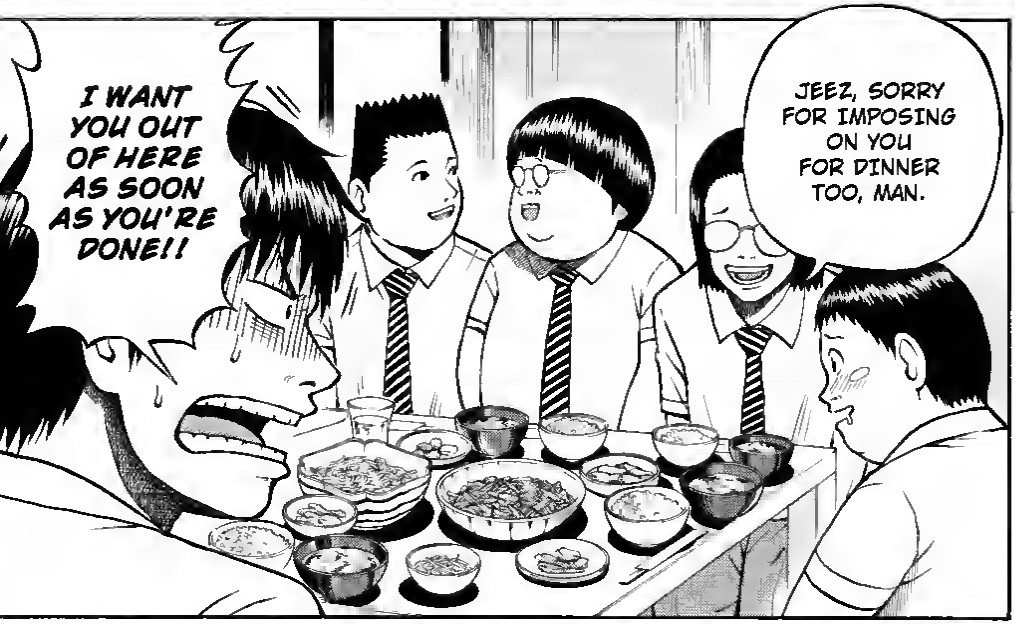
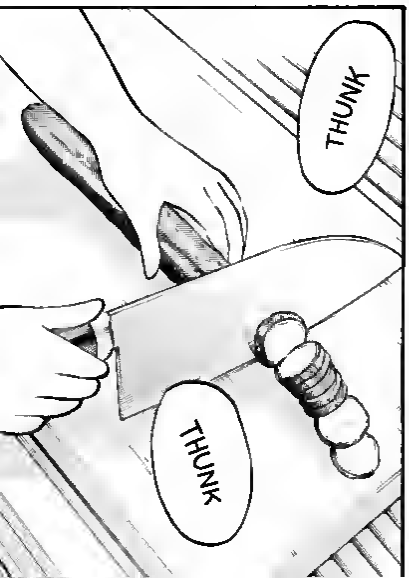
WAIT, I'M TELLING YOU...
WHICH WAS IT?!
YEAH! MAKE A DECISION!


A DO-OVER?
WE'RE GONNA CALL IT A DO-OVER.

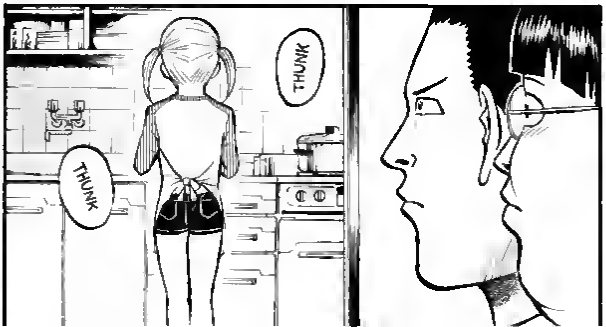
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "IMPARTIAL," YOU IDIOT?
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS THE RESULT OF OUR FAIR AND IMPARTIAL DELIBERATIONS...


SO YOU'VE GOT NO INTENTION OF GOING HOME THEN?!
WE'RE GOING TO OBSERVE THE SITUATION A LITTLE LONGER BEFORE REACHING A DECISION.


I WANT YOU OUT OF HERE AS SOON AS YOU'RE DONE!!
JEEZ, SORRY FOR IMPOSING ON YOU FOR DINNER TOO, MAN.

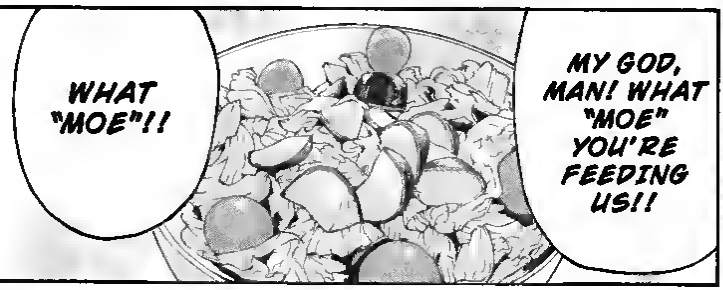

THUNK
THUNK

THUNK
THUNK
THUNK


THUNK
THUNK

THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
トン トン
BLUB BLUB
I MIGHT HAVE USED TOO MUCH DRESSING...
UH-OH...
THANKS FOR THE GRUB
HERE YOU ARE.
IT MIGHT NOT BE TOO TASTY, BUT...

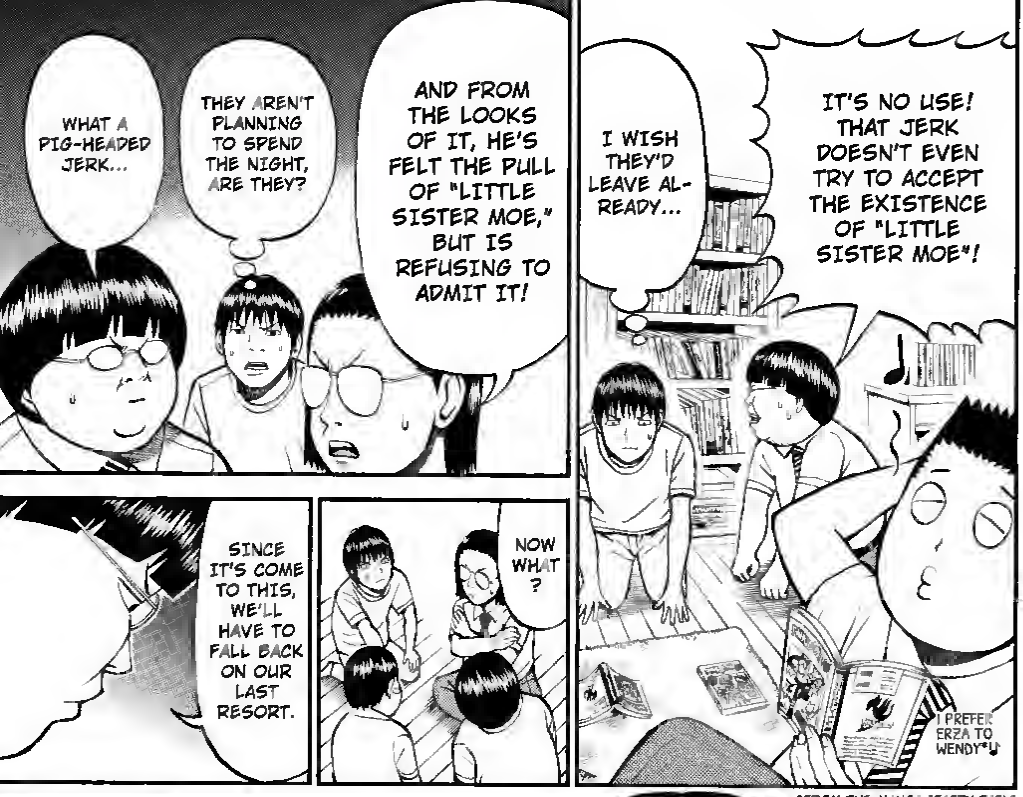
NOM
NOM


WHAT "MOE"!!
MY GOD, MAN! WHAT "MOE" YOU'RE FEEDING US!!

SURELY EVEN KOMATSU-HAN MUST ADMIT THAT "LITTLE SISTER MOE" EXISTS, AM I RIGHT?
AFTER THAT SWEET GIRL POURED HER HEART INTO PREPARING THIS BOUNTY FOR US AT SUCH A TENDER AGE...

AO-SHI-MA-HAN!!!!
YES? WHAT IS IT?
"HAN"?

FWAPP
YEAH!
YEAH!
WOO!
COUNTER
CAN MAKE A SALAD.
ANY-BODY...
WHAM


WHAT A PIG-HEADED JERK...
THEY AREN'T PLANNING TO SPEND THE NIGHT, ARE THEY?
AND FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, HE'S FELT THE PULL OF "LITTLE SISTER MOE," BUT IS REFUSING TO ADMIT IT!
I WISH THEY'D LEAVE ALREADY...
IT'S NO USE! THAT JERK DOESN'T EVEN TRY TO ACCEPT THE EXISTENCE OF "LITTLE SISTER MOE"!
I PREFER ERZA TO WENDY*
SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS, WE'LL HAVE TO FALL BACK ON OUR LAST RESORT.
NOW WHAT?

*FROM THE MANGA "FAIRY TAIL"

NOK NOK
I'M IKE-FUKUROU-SENSEI.
I'M CALLI-GRAPHY PEN-SENSEI.
ガチャ
KER-CHUNK
WE APOLO-GIZE FOR INTERRUPT-ING YOUR HOMEWORK. WE ARE FROM DRY PRIVATE TUTORS.
YES, LET'S
LET'S SEE
THIS PART.
IS THERE ANY PART YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND?
WE CAME TODAY TO TEACH YOU FOR FREE.
HUH? WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

...A REQUEST?
WHOA, THEY GAVE UP...
FORGET ABOUT THAT. WE HAVE A REQUEST FOR YOU.
THUNK
WHUMP!
NO... UH... WAIT A...
YOU MUST MELT HIS ICY HEART!
HUH?
WOULD YOU PLEASE CALL KOMATSU "ONII-CHAN"?!
AND, IF AT ALL POS-SIBLE...
AND I WANT "AN-CHAN"!!
I'LL TAKE "NII-NII"!!
WOULD YOU MIND CALLING ME "ONII-SAMA"?!
AND TRY TO SOUND LIKE SAKIE*1!

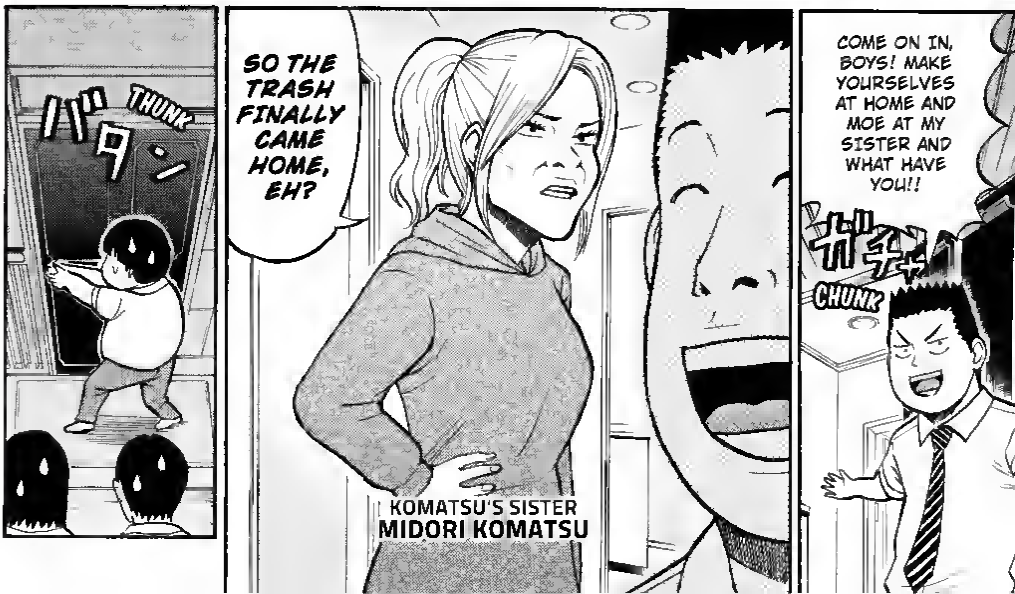
*FROM THE "SISTER PRINCESS" SERIES

COME TO THINK OF IT, I CAN'T REALLY BLAME HER.
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DO THAT.
NO...
HIKARI-CHAN LOOKED PRETTY CREEPED OUT, HUH?
SHE SAID "NO"...
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS "LITTLE SISTER MOE"?
THAT JUST GOES TO SHOW YOU, THAT GIRL IS NO DIFFERENT FROM THE ONES IN CLASS.
NOK
NOK
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT...
WELL...

RATTLE RATTLE...
ガラガラ
UM...
WE MADE COOKIES IN HOME EC TODAY, SO...
YOU CAN HAVE THEM IF YOU'D LIKE...
AGEL
H-HIKARI-CHAN!!
THUNK
I'M SORRY ABOUT BEFORE. I WAS JUST SURPRISED, IS ALL.
BING
20
19
18
17
16
15
14

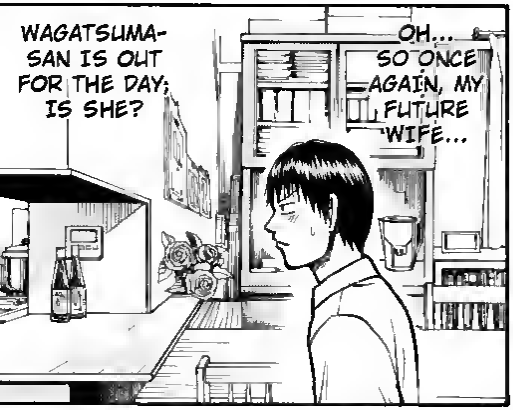
THEN WHY DON'T WE GO SEE HER?!
MAYBE IT'S TOO EARLY TO WRITE OFF MY SISTER, TOO!
YOU'RE FINALLY LEAVING?
GOOD IDEA!
SO YOU'VE FINALLY DECIDED TO ACCEPT IT?!
HERE COMES THE LITTLE SISTER MOE!!
PAH-RAAAH
PAH-RAPAH
20
19
18
17
16
15
14
12
11
10

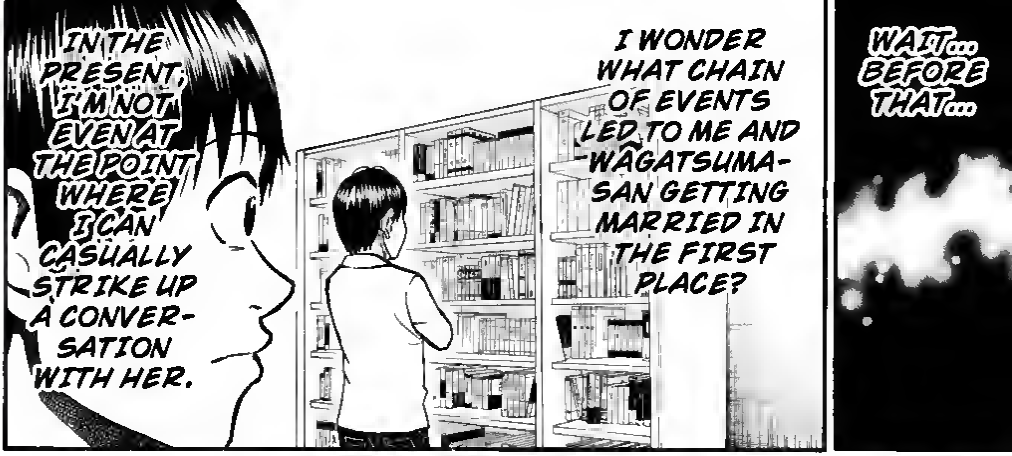
OH, COME ON! JUST ONE MORE!
HOLD UP, BOSS! I DON'T THINK I CAN HOLD ANOTHER MOE!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S HIT UP ONE MORE BAR BEFORE CLOSING TIME!


THUNK
SO THE TRASH FINALLY CAME HOME, EH?
KOMATSU'S SISTER
MIDORI KOMATSU
COME ON IN, BOYS! MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME AND MOE AT MY SISTER AND WHAT HAVE YOU!!
CHUNK

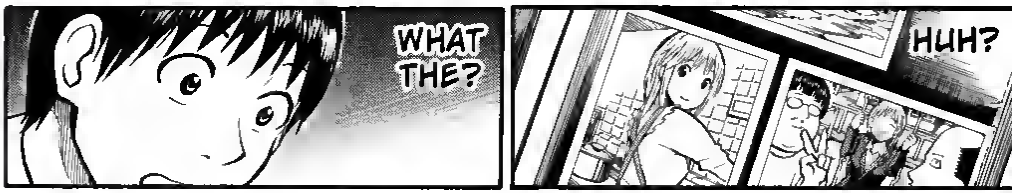
# PART 19
## Sympathy for the Brother




IN THE PRESENT, I'M NOT EVEN AT THE POINT WHERE I CAN CASUALLY STRIKE UP A CONVER-SATION WITH HER.
I WONDER WHAT CHAIN OF EVENTS LED TO ME AND -WAGATSUMA- SAN GETTING MARRIED IN THE FIRST PLACE?
WAIT... BEFORE THAT...

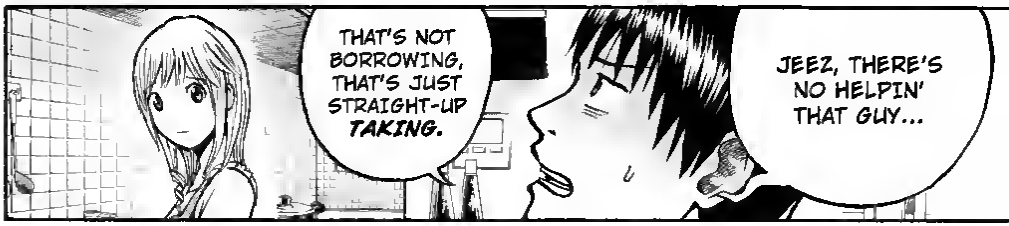
YOWZA... I KNEW SHE WAS CUTE!
MAYBE I CAN FIND OUT IF I LOOK THROUGH OUR OLD PHOTO ALBUMS...
WHAT SPARKED OUR RELATION-SHIP?!

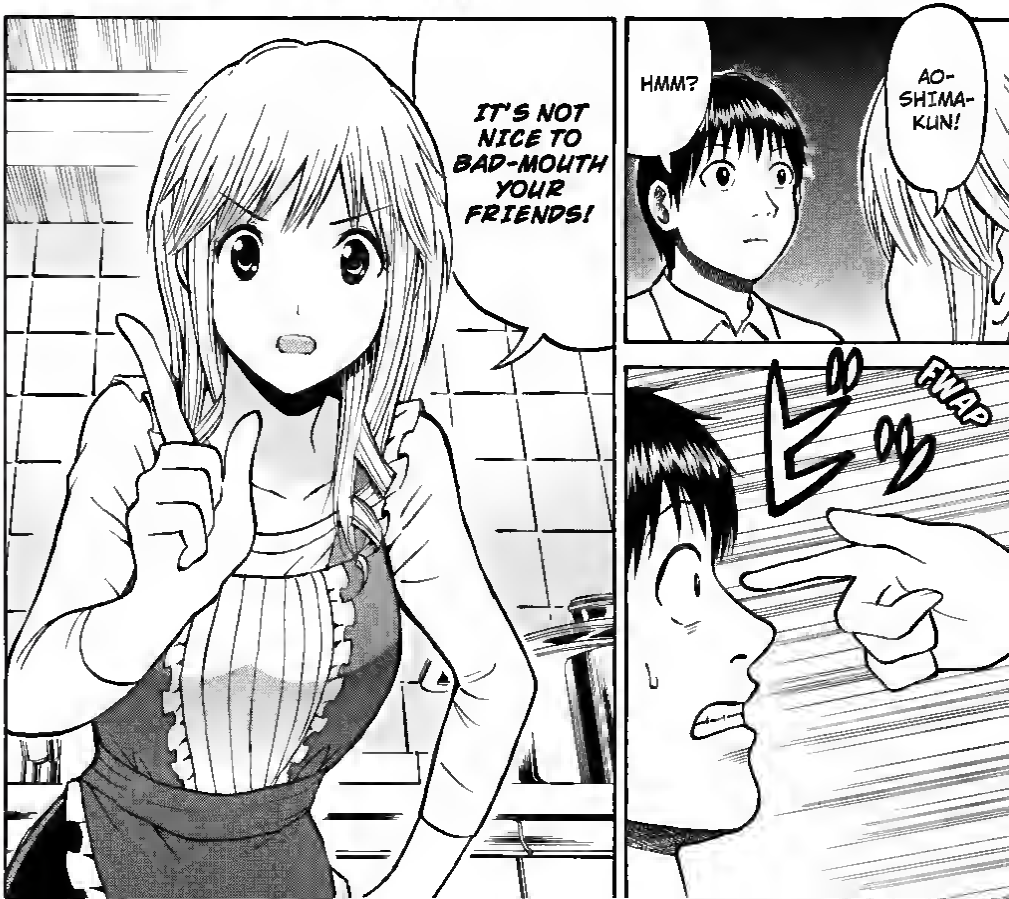

WHAT THE?
HUH?

HUH?
PICTURES FROM HIGH SCHOOL?

OH... THAT'S RIGHT. NOW I REMEMBER.
HMM, WHY WAS IT, I WONDER?
YEAH... IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WE HAVE MANY LEFT...
DO YOU KNOW WHY?
WE LENT THEM TO KOMATSU-KUN A WHILE BACK.
TO KOMA-TSU?
WHY WOULD WE LEND THEM TO HIM?
HIS HAIR...
HIS HAIR?
YOU SEE... HIS HAIR...
HIS HAIR?
IT SEEMS HE'S NOS-TALGIC FOR THE DAYS WHEN HE HAD HAIR...
I COULDN'T SAY NO...
WHAT A CRUMMY REASON!!

WELL... NO, HE HASN'T.
WAIT, THEN...
HE STILL HASN'T GIVEN THEM BACK?!
HMM?


THAT'S NOT BORROWING, THAT'S JUST STRAIGHT-UP *TAKING.*
JEEZ, THERE'S NO HELPIN' THAT GUY...


*IT'S NOT NICE TO BAD-MOUTH YOUR FRIENDS!*
HMM?
AO-SHIMA-KUN!
FWAP

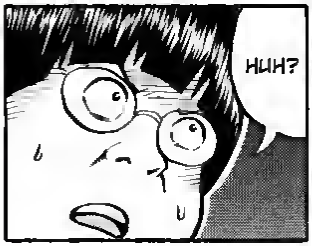
I'M SORRY! I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON!!
Y...
YEAH.
YOU HEAR ME?
SHE'S SUCH A SWEET PER-SON...
BUT IN COM-PARISON...
SHE'S AN ANGEL!!
TH-THERE IT IS AGAIN!!
ふわ
OH JEEZ...
WITH THAT KOMATSU...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GONNA DO...
HUH?
ONII-CHAN, YOUR FRIEND'S HERE.
BING-BONG
OH...THE T.S. IS OVER.
HMM?

...
HE'S LOST A LITTLE WEIGHT!
SHOCK
WHAT'S WRONG, ITOU?!
SHAKE
SHAKE
WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED?!
MY... K... KO...
KO... KO...
WHAT HAPPENED TO COCCO* ?!!!
NOT HER!
MY LOVER WON'T COME HOME...
...?! "L... LOVER" ?!!!
*J-POP / FOLK/ROCK/SINGER "LOVER" = "KOIBITO" IN JAPANESE

WHADDAYA MEAN, "LOVER"?! YOU JUST FRIGGIN' LENT SOME-ONE A HENTAI GAME THAT THEY WON'T GIVE BACK!!
NO, NO, NO! I'M AT THE POINT WHERE IT FEELS LIKE IT IS NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT OOSOYAMA-SAN FROM "LOVE MINUS" IS MY LOVER!
HOW STUPID!
くっだらねえ
MADE YOU LOOK
DO NOT YOU UNDER-STAND THESE FEEL-INGS?
SHHHHH
HEY! DON'T JUST COME TO PEOPLE'S HOUSES AND EAT THEIR CREAP*!!
*DAIRY-BASED FOOD PRODUCT
I HOPE KOMATSU HASN'T LOST IT OR ANY-THING...
TWITCH
HUH? SO THE PERSON YOU LENT THIS GAME TO IS... KOMA-TSU?
YES, INDEED HE IS. WHY?

WHUMP
ITOU !!!!
...AND CHANGE THE FUTURE SO WE GET OUR PHOTOS BACK!

IF THAT IS THE CASE, MAYBE I CAN DO SOME-THING TO FIX THAT NOW...
HEH! HEH! HEH!
SO HE ALREADY HAD HIS HABIT OF NOT RETURN-ING THINGS THIS FAR BACK?!


HUH?

GET YOUR COAT. WE'RE GOING TO KO-MATSU'S HOUSE.

WHOA! TALK ABOUT BAD ENUNCI-ATION!
AND RECOVER NOT ONLY YOUR HENTAI GAME, BUT KOMATSU'S BASIC HUMAN DECENCY ASH WELL!!
WE'RE GOING TO GIVE HIM A PIECE OF OUR MINDS...
*REFERENCE TO SHINZO ABE'S POOR ENUNCIATION IN A POLITICAL AD.

COPY THAT.
AND AFTER-WARDS, WE'LL GIVE HIM A STERN TALKING-TO!
WHEN HIS FRIENDS COME OVER AND ASK HIM FACE TO FACE.
SURELY EVEN KOMATSU CAN'T REFUSE TO RETURN IT...
NOKK
NOKK
MADE
KREEEEEK
KER-CHUNK
BING
BONG
PFFU
WHOA! TALK ABOUT SCARY !!!!
WHADDA YOU WANT?!
...
BWAHAHAHAHA! ANIKI! THE FAT GUY FROM TENSHIN* IS HERE AGAIN!! AND IT'S FRIGGIN' HILARIOUS!!
*COMEDY DUO, THE "FAT ONE" HAS GLASSES AND A HAIRCUT SIMILAR TO ITOU'S

HUH? ITOU'S HERE?
IT'S HIM !!!!
IT MAY HAVE SIMPLY SLIPPED HIS MIND... WE'LL START WITH A LOW PROFILE.
WE'VE GOTTA START CALM...

YO. WHAT'S UP?
HEY, KOMATSU-KUN.

G... GIMME BACK MY GIRL, KOMA-TSU!!
TOO SOON, ITOU!
WHOA!!
WHAT HAS GOT-TEN INTO YOU, YOU JERK?!!
I'M BEGGING YOU, KOMATSU! PLEASE GIMME BACK MY GIRL!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT, DANG IT?!
C'MON!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING I BOR-ROWED ?!!!
WHOA! THIS JERK DOESN'T EVEN REMEM-BER HE BOR-ROWED ANY-THING!

AND TAKE IT TO YOUR ROOM!
KEEP IT DOWN!
HEY!
STALLONE
FIRST BLOOD
WHY ARE YOU ACT-ING SO HIGH AND MIGHTY ?!!!
SO YOU SAY YOU WANT ME TO RE-TURN THIS GAME I SUPPOSEDLY BORROWED FROM YOU NEARLY A YEAR AGO?
I SEE...
I SEE.

HUH?
I RE-FUSE.
HEY, THAT'S JUST COM-MON THIEV-ERY!!
I RE-FUSE!
THEN GIVE IT BACK TO HIM, DUDE.
YEAH, I BOR-ROWED IT.
YOU BORROWED A GAME FROM ITOU, RIGHT?
NO... UH...
AND I HAVE NO INTEN-TION OF RETURN-ING THE GAME!!
I AM NO THIEF!

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I LOVE THAT GAME?
LISTEN, KOMA-TSU...
WHAT'S THIS GUY'S PROBLEM?
IN THE SIX MONTHS AFTER I PURCHASED THAT GAME, IT CARRIED ME THROUGH THEM ALL.
HARD TIMES, SAD TIMES, LONELY TIMES...
I UNDER-STAND YOUR FEELINGS VERY WELL...
YES...
COME ON, THERE'S GOTTA BE MORE THAN THAT...
THE SCREAM OF MY SOUL!
"LOVE MINUS" IS THE ONLY THING SUPPORT-ING MY WOUNDED HEART!
HOW DO YOU EVEN HAVE THE OPTION TO RE-FUSE ?!!!
BA-DOOM
BUT I STILL RE-FUSE!

THEN HURRY UP AND GIVE ME BACK MY GAME!!
BUT SHE'S NOW SPENT NEARLY A FULL YEAR WITH ME!!
LISTEN HERE, ITOU! THE TIME SHE SPENT WITH YOU WAS A MERE SIX MONTHS!
OVER THE PAST YEAR, NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, WITH NO MIND FOR ANYTHING ELSE...
...DO I HAVE TO SPELL IT OUT FOR YOU?
ITOU!! PULL IT TOGETHER, MAN!! THIS IS A GAME WE'RE TALKING ABOUT!
THAT'S... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. SHE WOULD NEVER BED DOWN WITH ANYONE BESIDES ME...
YARGH!!
I #&@%ED HER.
FOR REAL?!
AND THESE DAYS (IT FEELS LIKE) SHE'S SAYING MINE IS BETTER!!

IF YOU WANT HER BACK SO BAD...
THEN FIND HER! SHE'S IN THIS VERY ROOM!
SAY WHAT?!!!
DANG IT! WHERE IS IT?!!!
SHE AND I ARE ONE IN THE SAME!! WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FIND HER?!
BWAHAHA!
WHOA! LOOK AT THIS!
YOU BOR-ROWED THIS FROM FUJI-Q, DIDN'T YOU?!
**MOMMY IS FULLY-RIPENED*
AND THIS ONE IS... MAT-2'S, HUH?
TOO HOT FOR SHOUNEN MAGAZINE!!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR STEALING HABIT WAS THIS BAD..
HEY...
HMM?
LOOK, MY BOY-FRIEND CAME OVER, SO...
'SUP.
I'M SORRY, BUT COULD YOU, LIKE, GET LOST?

C'MON! GET A MOVE ON!!
GET OUTTA HERE!
Y... YEAH.
TWIN?
WHAT? SO YOUR BROTHER'S AN OTAKU?
YEAH. CAN YOU FRIGGIN' BELIEVE THAT?
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER
CAN THEY NOT TELL HOW LOUD THEY'RE WHISPERING?
ALL HE DOES IS PLAY VIDEO GAMES ALL DAY. IT'S SO CREEPY.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
HEH HEH HEH HEH
FOR REAL?! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
SERIOUSLY, HOW LONG IS THAT LOSER GONNA BE A VIRGIN?
DANG IT!!
KOMATSU!!

YEAH... SURE IS...
IT'S PRETTY HEART-BREAK-ING, HUH?
WHILE THE OLDER BROTHER IS BRAGGING ABOUT #&@%ING A VIDEO GAME CHARACTER, HIS YOUNGER SISTER'S BEEN BANGING THE CRAP OUT OF HER CLEARLY OLDER THUG OF A BOYFRIEND.
YARGH!!
DON'T SAY IT, ITOU! DON'T SAY IT!
DANG IT...
DANG IT...
WHUMP
NO...I GUESS IT'S BE-CAUSE I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING AT ALL...
WHAT HAVE I DONE TO DESERVE THIS? TO BE SO OUTPACED BY MY OWN SISTER...

I AM TRULY SORRY.
SO THAT'S WHY WE COULDN'T FIND IT...
OHH! IT'S MY "LOVE MINUS" !!!!
F... FROM UNDER HIS SHIRT ?!!!
KU
AHP
WHAT AM I DOING... MAN?
I'LL TREAT YOU TO AN ORDER OF BREAD CRUSTS TOMORROW.
"CRUSTS"?
CHEER UP, KOMATSU... YOU'RE OUR LEADER, AREN'T YOU?
OHH?
OH?
KOMATSU?
HMM?
A T.S., EH?!
OHH !!!!
T.S. ACTIVE

HUH?
PICTURES FROM HIGH SCHOOL?
SURE, WE'VE GOT SOME.
KOMATSU...
HUH? KOMATSU DIDN'T BORROW THEM AND NEVER GIVE THEM BACK?
THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN AT ALL.
CHANGED HIS NEVER-RETURNING-THINGS-WAYS...
WOW...
I WAS ABLE...TO CHANGE THE FUTURE!!
SEEING THESE REALLY TAKES YOU BACK, HUH?

IT WAS DURING THE FIELD TRIP IN OUR 2ND YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL WHEN IT HAPPENED, WASN'T IT?
WHEN YOU ASKED ME OUT.
...HUH?!!
THE FIELD TRIP?! ISN'T THAT... NEXT MONTH?!!
...YOU DIDN'T FORGET, DID YOU?
OF COURSE NOT!! I REMEMBER IT PLAIN AS DAY!!
DON'T TELL ME...
IN THE NEXT MONTH, I HAVE TO CLOSE THE DISTANCE BETWEEN ME AND WAGATSUMA-SAN...
AND TELL HER HOW I FEEL ABOUT HER DURING THE FIELD TRIP...
OR THIS FUTURE WON'T HAPPEN?!

— MY FUTURE WIFE TOLD ME —

# PART 20
# Classroom Rock

I'M ABOUT TO BURST !!!!
AND... IN THE PRESENT
WHICH MEANS...
OUR DESTINATIONS ARE KYOTO AND NARA...
THE FIELD TRIP IS NEXT MONTH...
CONFESS MY LOVE FOR HER?!
I DO THIS TO WAGATSUMA-SAN NEXT MONTH IN KYOTO, HUH?
Yoo.

AHEM...
...
I LOVE YOU! MARRY ME!!
YAAAAAAAAAAAAAARGH!
HOW EMBARRASSING!!
BUT...
NOT EVEN PRETENDING TO PAY ATTENTION TO CLASS
CAN I SAY THAT?! ME?!
AHH!
I KNEW SOMETHING LIKE THIS WAS GONNA COME SOONER OR LATER, BUT HAVING A SET DATE FOR IT MAKES ME REALLY NERVOUS...

BUT STILL...
THE BIG-GEST PROB-LEM
WHEN I ASK HER OUT, WILL I GET AN "OKAY"?!
HMM?
OH!
OH... HEY.
HEY...
BUT A SIMPLE GREETING IS STILL WAY TOO FAR OFF...
AHHHHH... JEEZ, SHE IS SO CUTE...

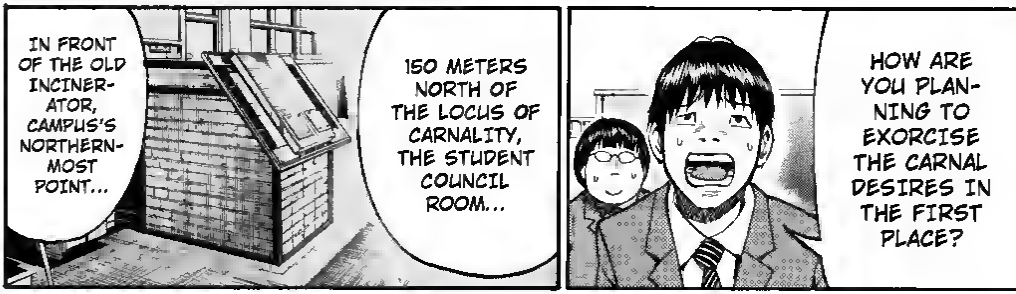
I MUST GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO HER THAT SHE DOESN'T...
LAUGH IN MY FACE WHEN I ASK HER OUT IN A MONTH.
I MEAN, I'M GOING UP AGAINST THE MOST POPULAR GIRL IN SCHOOL, AI WAGA-TSUMA!!
BUT HOW IN THE WORLD CAN I DO THAT?
GETTING AN "OKAY" PROBABLY ISN'T VERY LIKELY.
WHAM
AOSHIMA!! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME, YOU JERK?!
HUH? SORRY! AM I LISTEN-ING TO WHAT?
F... FESTI-VAL?!
視聴覚室
THE FESTIVAL! THE FESTIVAL IS CLOSING IN ON US!!
"A.V. ROOM"

WHEN YOU THINK OF OCTOBER, YOU THINK OF THE FESTIVAL, RIGHT? AM I RIGHT?!
NO... SORRY. I'M NOT SURE I FOLLOW...
WHAT IS THE FESTIVAL WE ALL HOLD AT SCHOOL IN OCTOBER?
OH, THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL, HUH?
...
YOU FOOL!!!!
YEOUCH!!!
NOSE-HOOK TOSS
THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL IS BUT A FALSE FESTIVAL HELD SO THE LIFE-HAVERS CAN SEARCH FOR A MATE!!
WHUMPH
HUFF

UNDER-GROUND ZAISHOU HIGH FEST?!
THE...
I SPEAK OF NO LESS THAN THE UNDER-GROUND ZAISHOU HIGH FEST, OF COURSE!
WHEN IT COMES TO OUR SCHOOL'S FESTIVALS, THERE IS BUT ONE OF NOTE!
LEADER !!!!
ALLEY-OOP!!
BA-DUM
BA-DUM
WHAT IS... THAT SUPPOSED TO BE?
DUM
DUM
DUM
DUM
HEAVE-HO!! HEAVE-HO!!
HEAVE-HO!! HEAVE-HO!!

OH, COME TO THINK OF IT... AOSHIMA AND ITOU ONLY JOINED THE DX CORPS THIS YEAR, SO THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT.
THEN WHAT WAS THAT NOSE-HOOK EARLIER ABOUT?
LISTEN UP, AO-SHIMA.
ALL SCHOOL FESTIVALS ARE "CULTURAL" FESTIVALS IN NAME ONLY...
I WANNA GET POPULAR WITH A BAND!!
FLIRTING WITH STUDENTS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS
I WANNA GET CLOSE TO GIRLS WHILE WE PREPARE FOR IT!
THEY ARE ALL SIMPLY BIG PARTIES AWASH IN THE CARNAL DESIRES OF THE LIFE-HAVERS.
AND UNFORTU-NATELY, OUR SCHOOL IS NO EXCEPTION.
...
SO...
IN ORDER TO EXOR-CISE OUR SCHOOL OF THIS ROTTEN EVENT RIFE WITH CARNAL DESIRE...
WE, THE DX CORPS, HOLD OUR OWN FES-TIVAL... THAT IS THE UNDER-GROUND ZAISHOU FEST!!
BA-DUM
DUM

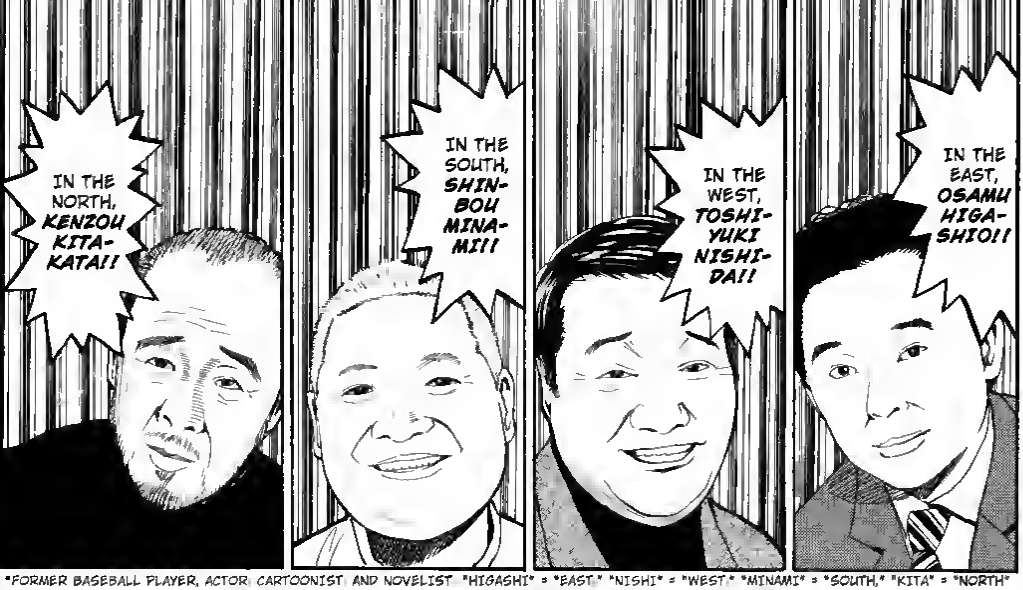
*FESTIVAL CHANT ASSOCIATED WITH AOMORI'S NEBUTA FESTIVAL


IN FRONT OF THE OLD INCINERATOR, CAMPUS'S NORTHERNMOST POINT...
150 METERS NORTH OF THE LOCUS OF CARNALITY, THE STUDENT COUNCIL ROOM...
HOW ARE YOU PLANNING TO EXORCISE THE CARNAL DESIRES IN THE FIRST PLACE?

YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS, ITOU ?!!!
HUH? THAT WAS YOU GUYS ?!!!
THE RITUAL OF THE CONSECRATED FIRE?! YOU MEAN LIKE THAT TRAINING THING KANEMOTO* DOES BEFORE THE START OF BASEBALL SEASON ?!!!
WE WILL PERFORM THE RITUAL OF THE CONSECRATED FIRE FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL!!

*TOMOAKI KANEMOTO OF THE HANSHIN TIGERS

*CLEANSING RITUAL IN JAPANESE ESOTERIC BUDDHISM




*FORMER BASEBALL PLAYER, ACTOR, CARTOONIST, AND NOVELIST. *HIGASHI* = *EAST.* *NISHI* = *WEST.* *MINAMI* = *SOUTH.* *KITA* = *NORTH.*

I'M KIND OF STARTING TO SMELL THE DISTINCT AROMA OF MOTH-BALLS!!
OH, YOU'RE WELL-INFORMED.
THE RITUAL IS PERFORMED INSIDE A PURI-FIED BARRIER SURROUNDED BY THESE FOUR GODS.

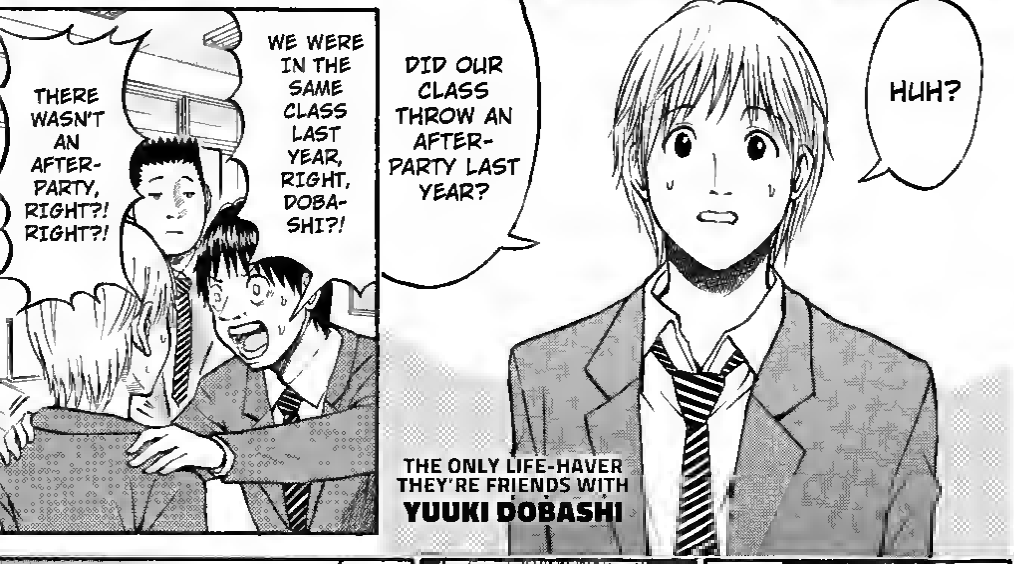
THAT IS JUST ALL KINDS OF AWFUL!
RMB
RMB
RMB
RMB
AND BECAUSE WE ALSO BURN OUR WORN-OUT EROTIC GOODS, IT IS ALSO KNOWN BY ANOTHER NAME: "THE EROTIC BONFIRE."

THAT JUST MAKES YOU SOUND PETTY!
AND ON THE CHARMS WE BURN, WE WRITE THE NAMES OF FEMALE STUDENTS FROM OUR SCHOOL.
CLASS 3-A
SATOKO ATOU
VOLLEYBALL TEAM

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE BEING PRETTY HARD-CORE ABOUT IT...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
ARE YOU CLEANSING YOURSELF?
THAT'S LUBE I'M POURING OVER MYSELF.
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?!
HMM...
PLUS...
IS THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL REALLY THAT PACKED WITH CARNAL DESIRE IN THE FIRST PLACE?!
NO, NO, NO! I'M TELLING YOU THERE'S SOMETHING PRETERNATURAL ABOUT THE RATE OF COUPLE FORMATION AROUND THE FESTIVAL!!
ESPECIALLY DURING THE AFTER-PARTY!!
HUH?
WHAT'S AN AFTER-PARTY?
...HUH?

IT'S WHEN YOU GET TOGETHER WITH YOUR CLASS AFTER THE FESTIVAL...
AND DO STUFF LIKE GO TO A DINER, OR MAYBE KARAOKE, AND JUST GENERALLY HAVE A GOOD TIME...
HUH... SO SOME CLASSES DO THAT STUFF AFTER THE FESTIVAL.
THAT'S AWESOME.
NO, DUDE, ALL CLASSES DO IT.

YOU LIAR!
THEN HOW COME I'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT?!
...YOU WANT TO ASK SOMEONE?


HUH?
DID OUR CLASS THROW AN AFTER-PARTY LAST YEAR?
WE WERE IN THE SAME CLASS LAST YEAR, RIGHT, DOBASHI?!
THERE WASN'T AN AFTER-PARTY, RIGHT?! RIGHT?!
THE ONLY LIFE-HAVER THEY'RE FRIENDS WITH
YUUKI DOBASHI

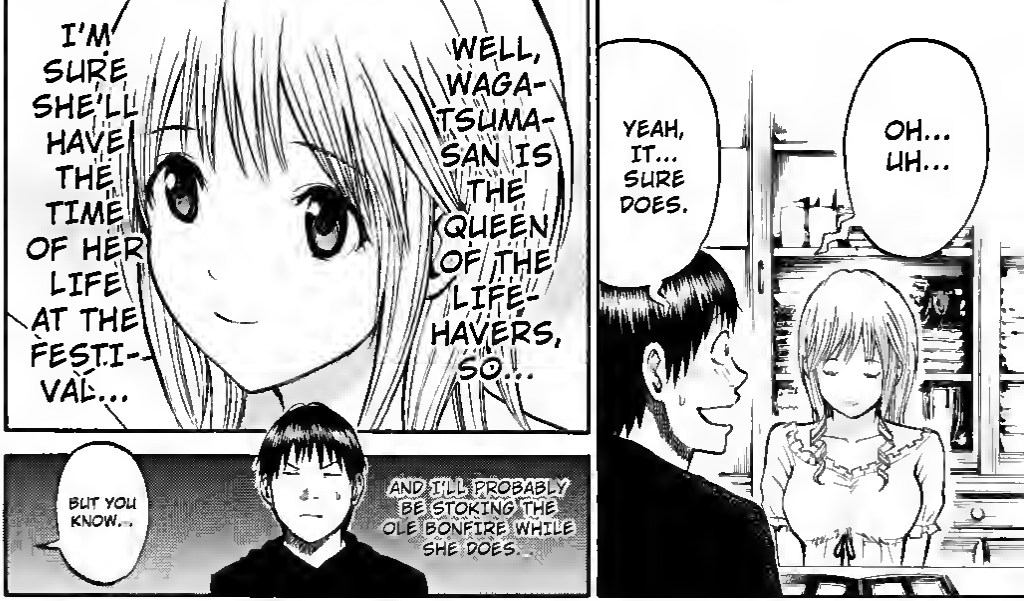
WE...
HAD ONE.

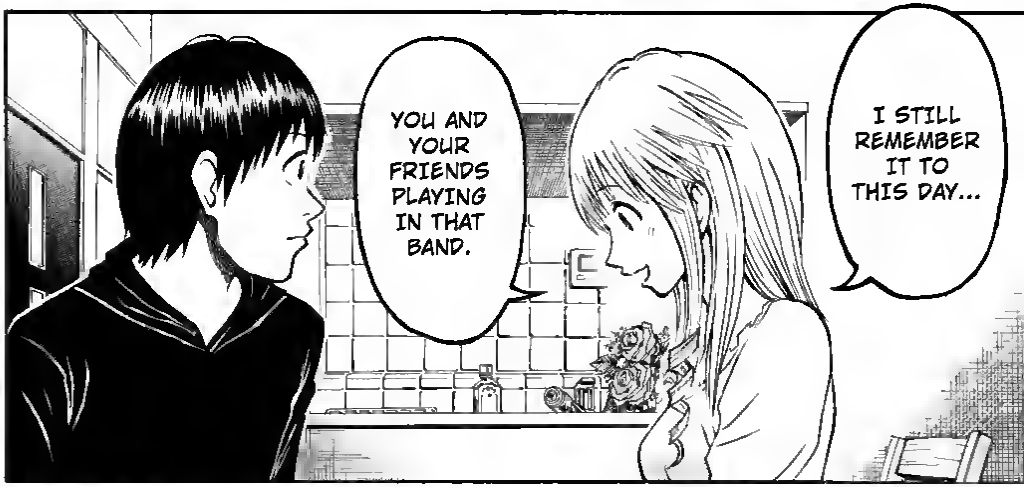
WHY NOT?!
WH-
I WASN'T INVITED!!
GRAB
PFFT!
I DON'T WANNA HEAR THAT FROM YOU!!
YO!
MR. CLASS OUT-CAST!
I HEAR BEING INVITED IS ALSO NO WALK IN THE PARK.
WELL, I WASN'T INVITED EITHER, BUT...
YEAH, I KNEW THIS IS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN.
WHAT THE HECK?! JEEZ!! THIS IS JUST THE WORST!!

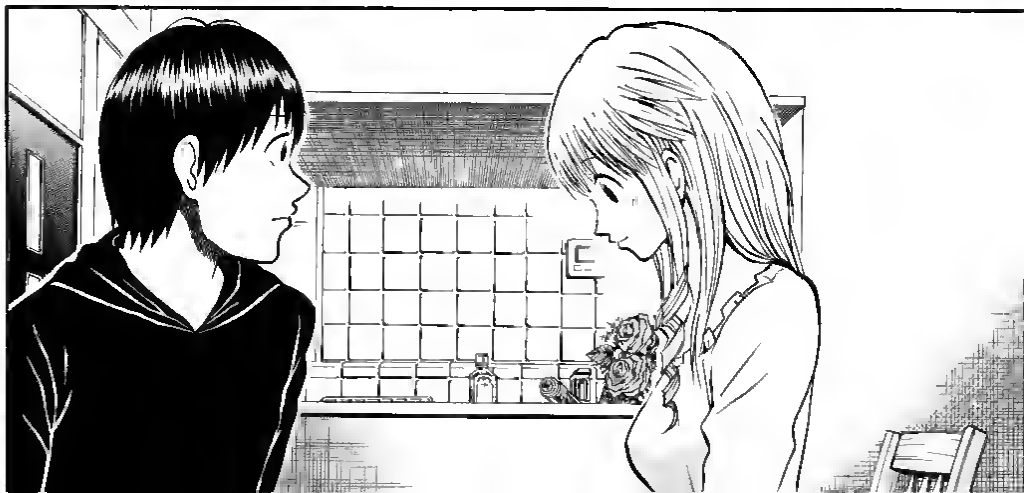
THUMP THUMP
WELL, I PARTIC-IPATED IN MY CLASS'S FESTIVITIES MORE OR LESS...
BUT...
THE ATMOS-PHERE IN THE CLASS-ROOM FELT ODD.
BOOM
THE HUNTER
-:AHEM:- THIS IS A TALE OF LAST YEAR'S CULTURAL FESTIVAL.
**ELECTRIC MEDUSA*
AND ANY TIME THE WORD "AFTERPARTY" WAS SPOKEN, EVERY-ONE IN THE ROOM WENT "SHH!!"
HOW DO I PUT IT...? EVERYONE KEPT EXCHANGING GLANCES...
WAIT, GUYS! THIS IS WEIRD!!
THE ONE GUY IN CLASS WITH A STRONG SENSE OF JUS-TICE...
...SAID THAT.
WELL, I THOUGHT SOMETHING WAS STRANGE AS WELL, BUT AS I WAS GATHERING MY THINGS TO LEAVE, AN INCIDENT OCCURRED.
BEFORE LONG, SOMEONE CAME UP TO ME AND SAID, "THAT TV SHOW YOU LIKE COMES ON TO-NIGHT, RIGHT?"
CLEARLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO GET RID OF ME.
SMELLS MIGHTY FISHY, AM I RIGHT?

THE WHOLE ROOM FROZE OVER.
SHIVER
ぶるっ…
WE'RE HAVING AN AFTER-PARTY TONIGHT...
SO YOU COME TOO!!
YEAH.
I HAD NO REASON TO DECLINE AFTER BEING INVITED, SO I DID ATTEND...
BUT!
...WHILE I DID ATTEND THE PARTY, I DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS IN THE FIRST PLACE, SO I HAD TO ENDURE THE HELL OF HAVING NO ONE TO TALK TO...
NOW BRANDED "THE MAN WITHOUT A CLUE," FELL DRASTICALLY IN THE CLASS HIERARCHY...
NOT TO MENTION THAT AFTERWARDS, OUR FRIEND WITH THE THIRST FOR JUSTICE...
AND REMAINS IN A LOW RANK TO THIS VERY DAY!
THUS, THE HUNTER BECAME THE HUNTED!!
EEEEEK!!

SEE?
THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE.
OUTCASTS LIKE US SHOULDN'T MESS AROUND WITH THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL.
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT...
THAT'S SERIOUSLY FRIGHTEN-ING...
HMM?
HUH?
WHAT'S FRIGHT-ENING?
WHOA ?!!!
TIME SLIP ACTIVE
THE CUL-TURAL FESTI-VAL, HUH?
I ♥ YOU
THAT SURE TAKES ME BACK.

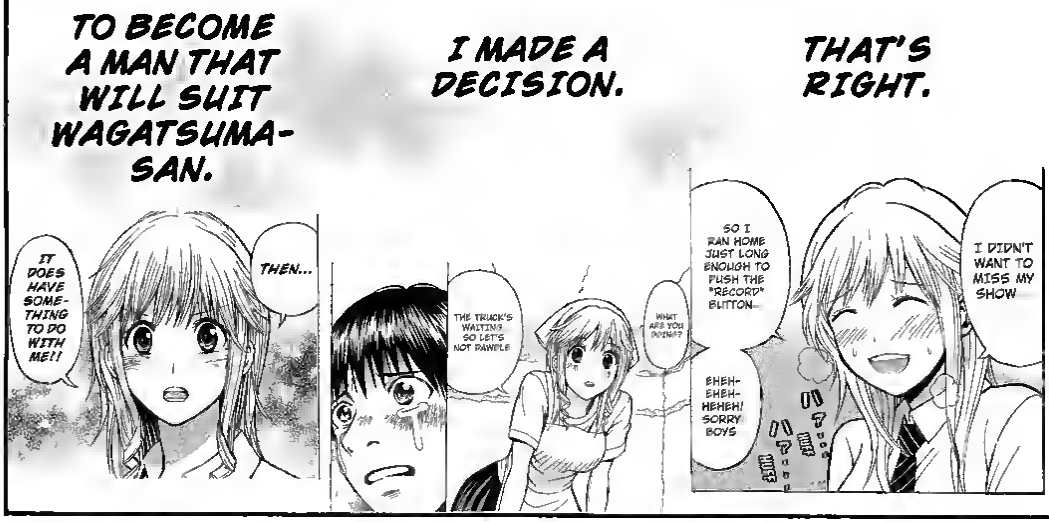

I'M SURE SHE'LL HAVE THE TIME OF HER LIFE AT THE FESTI-VAL...
WELL, WAGA-TSUMA-SAN IS THE QUEEN OF THE LIFE-HAVERS, SO...
BUT YOU KNOW...
AND I'LL PROBABLY BE STOKING THE OLE BONFIRE WHILE SHE DOES.
OH... UH...
YEAH, IT... SURE DOES.

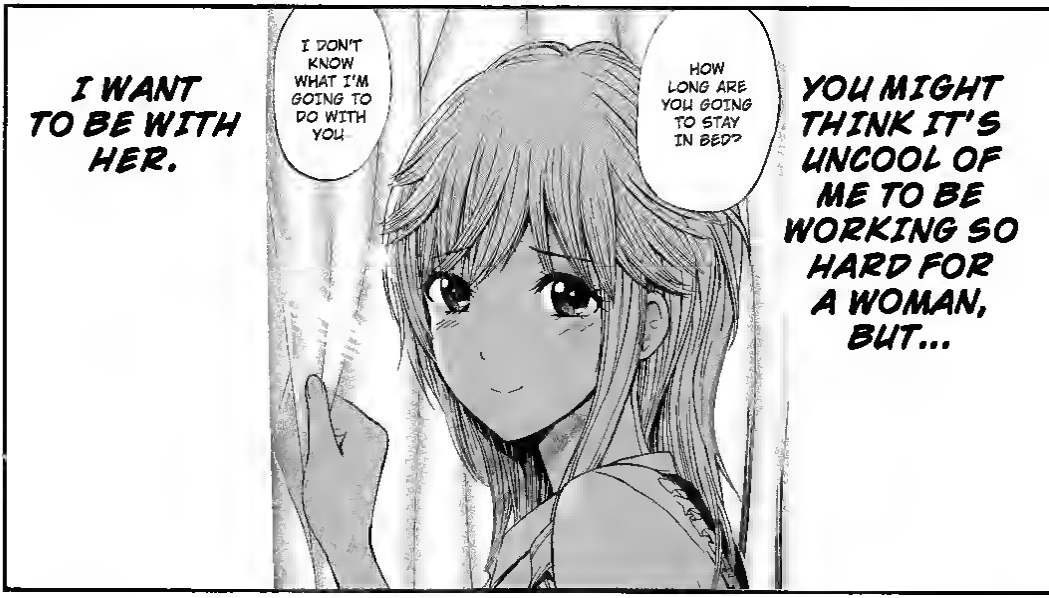

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS PLAYING IN THAT BAND.
I STILL REMEMBER IT TO THIS DAY...

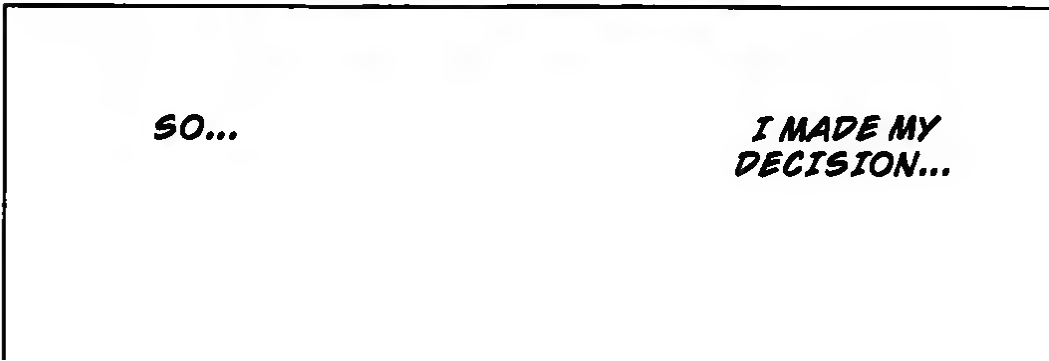


WHAT THE HECK'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!
...A BAND?
YEAH.
DIDN'T YOU DO THAT?
PLAY IN A BAND.
I'VE NEVER ONCE BEEN IN A BAND!!
IN ALL MY DAYS ON THIS EARTH...
DOES THIS MEAN THIS...
MARRIAGE
ASK HER OUT DURING THE FIELD TRIP
WAGATSUMA-SAN'S AFFECTION UP!!
PLAY IN A BAND AT THE FESTIVAL
IS WHAT HAPPENS?!
I THINK MY HEART SKIPPED A BEAT.
EHEHEH...
YOU KNOW, WHEN I SAW THAT...I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, "HERE'S A GUY WHO KNOWS HOW TO HAVE FUN."
NO WAY, NO HOW! THAT'S WAAAY BEYOND MY CAPACITY!!
WHAT THE HECK, MAN?! WHAT'S WITH ALL THESE INSANE CHAINS OF EVENTS IN THE TIME SLIPS LATELY?!
FUTURE ME, YOU IDIOT!!

SO NOW YOU UNDER-STAND
HOW YOU NEED TO SPEND THE FESTIVAL, RIGHT?
I UNDER-STAND VERY WELL
YEAH
OH...
T.S. OVER
FORM A BAND!!
BAM
LET'S...
...BEG PARDON?


TO BECOME A MAN THAT WILL SUIT WAGATSUMA-SAN.
I MADE A DECISION.
THAT'S RIGHT.
IT DOES HAVE SOME-THING TO DO WITH ME!!
THEN...
THE TRUCK'S WAITING SO LETS NOT PANDLE
WHAT ARE YOU WEING?
SO I RAN HOME JUST LONG ENOUGH TO PUSH THE "RECORD" BUTTON
EHEH-EHEH-HEHEH! SORRY BOYS
I DIDN'T WANT TO MISS MY SHOW


I WANT TO BE WITH HER.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO WITH YOU
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO STAY IN BED?
YOU MIGHT THINK IT'S UNCOOL OF ME TO BE WORKING SO HARD FOR A WOMAN, BUT...


SO...
I MADE MY DECISION...

WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID ?!!!
WERE YOU NOT LISTEN-ING TO US JUST NOW, YOU FRIGGIN' MORON?!
KRAKK
KRAKK
THOKK
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A BAND BEFORE!
ARE YOU JUST WASTING OUR TIME?!

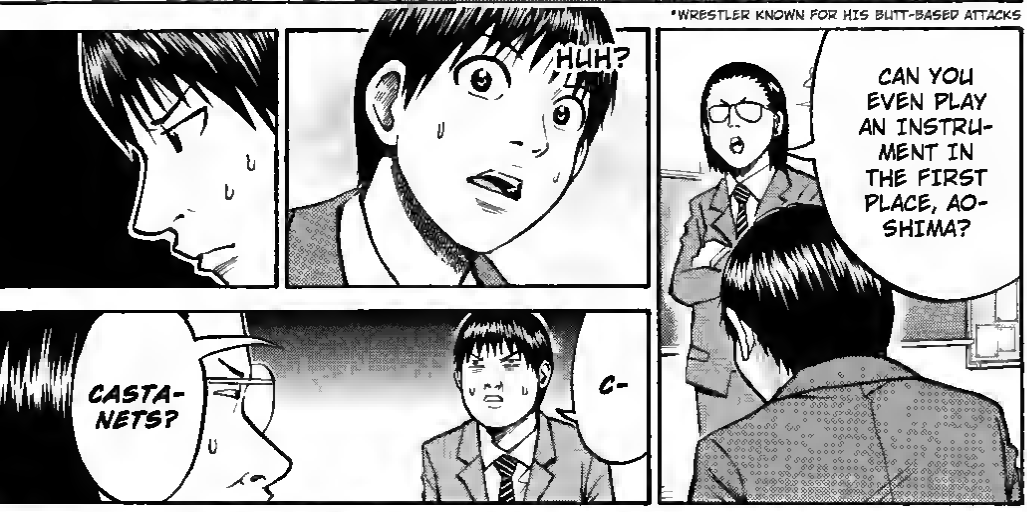
# PART 21
# Go! Go! MANIAC

WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF PARTICIPATING IN THE LIFE-HAVERS' FESTIVITIES.
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
"TRADI-TION"? DIDN'T YOU START THAT LAST YEAR?
AS PER TRADITION, THE DX CORPS WILL PERFORM THE RITUAL OF THE CONSECRATED FIRE.
GET ME THE UP-DATED DATA ON ALL THE GIRLS IN SCHOOL!!
ALL RIGHT, WE'VE GOTTA GET TO WORK ON MAKING CHARMS FOR THE FIRE!!
WUH... WAIT...
WE'VE... GOTTA FORM A BAND...
FORM A BAND...
LET'S...

IF I DON'T FORM A BAND...
...I WON'T BE ABLE TO MARRY WAGA-TSUMA-SAN!!
MY FUTURE...
MY LIFE IS RID-ING...
ON THIS FESTI-VAL.
PLEASE, GUYS...
I HAVE TO DO THIS TO SECURE MY FUTURE...
SO PLEASE HELP ME...
FORM THIS BAND.
AO-SHI-MA.

**CERTAIN VICTORY!
必勝
DON'T GO DRAGGING OTHER PEOPLE INTO YOUR STUPID DREAMS AND DELUSIONS!!
LEARNED FROM KOSHINAGA*
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THOSE ARE JUST YOUR DELUSIONS?!
HIP ATTACK!!

*WRESTLER KNOWN FOR HIS BUTT-BASED ATTACKS



TH-THEN CAN YOU GUYS PLAY ANYTHING?!
LISTEN, YOU... DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN PLAY IN A BAND WITHOUT KNOWING HOW TO PLAY A SINGLE INSTRUMENT?

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN DO THIS.
WE'RE RANK AMATEURS, JUST LIKE YOU.
THEN...
WHAT ABOUT THE BAND?
GIVE UP, DUDE.
IT'S IM-POSSIBLE.
...
N...
N-
FLOP
PLOP

NOOOOO!!
BAND! BAND! LET'S DO A BAND!

BAAAA-AAAAA-AAND!!
BAND! BAND! BAND!
FLAIL
FLAIL
FLAIL

I'M GONNA LIVE THE GOOD LIFE!!
I'M GONNA PLAY IN A BAND AND MARRY WAGATSUMA-SAN!!
BEING CREEPED OUT

SETTLE DOWN, AOSHI-MA!!
グスッ
SNIFF
IT TAKES A LOT OF PRAC-TICE TIME FOR A BUNCH OF RANK AMATEURS TO GET TO THE LEVEL...
WHERE THEY CAN PLAY FOR AN AUDIENCE !!!!
THAT'S RIGHT, AOSHI-MA-SHI!
CAN YOU PLAY THE GUITAR LIKE SGT. LUKE TAKA-MURA THE THIRD FROM SEIKIMA-II*?!!!
OH... WELL, I DON'T THINK HE NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO PLAY THAT WELL...
OH! BUT HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET TO AIKO-SAN'S LEVEL.
FUJI-Q, YOU LIKE STUFF LIKE AIKO?!
Aiko Love
THAT KIND OF TICKS ME OFF!
JUST A COTTON-PICKIN' MINUTE!
WHAT IS IT ?!!!
*JAPANESE METAL BAND FORMED IN 1982

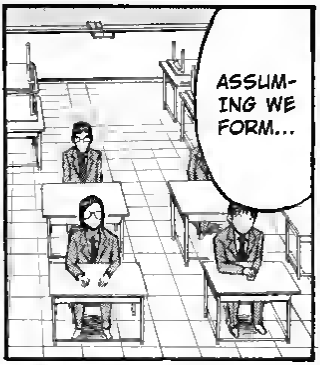
*METAL BAND FORMED IN 1982

*SINGER-SONGWRITER STARTED IN THE 1970S

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "K-*N" ?!!!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "X JAPAN" ?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "AIKO"?
SILENCE
PERSON-ALLY...
LISTEN HERE...
ALLOW ME TO EX-PLAIN!
HMM... HAMA-SHOU, HUH?
YEAH, I DON'T KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT THAT...
SAY WHAT ?!!!
THAN SHOUGO HAMADA *!!!!
I WILL ACCEPT NONE OTHER...
& SKY
BANDANA + JEAN JACKET + SUNGLASSES = SHOUGO HAMADA STYLE!
HOW DID THE DX CORPS, FORMERLY AGAINST IT SO STUB-BORNLY, WARM UP TO THE BAND IDEA?!
*SINGER-SONGWRITER WHO NEVER PERFORMS LIVE WITHOUT HIS SUNGLASSES

BECAUSE, HONESTLY, NO ONE REALLY WANTED TO GO THROUGH THAT GRUELING RITUAL!!

A...
BAND.
KLAK KLAK KLAK


ASSUMING WE FORM...

AND SO...

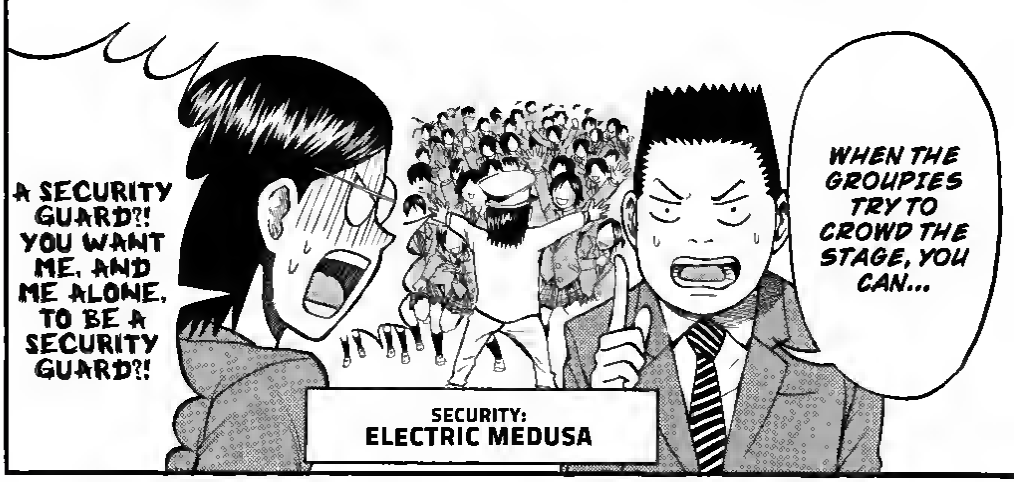
・パートは何をやるか
・曲は何をやるか
・練習場所はどこを使うか
・楽器はどうやって手に入れるか
THE ISSUES I SEE ARE AS FOLLOWS:
"WHO WILL PLAY WHAT?
"WHAT SONG WILL WE PLAY?
"WHERE SHOULD WE PRACTICE?
"HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET INSTRUMENTS?"

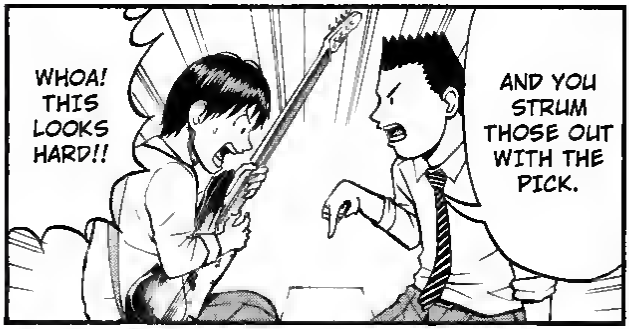
OH, YOU'VE GOT A POINT THERE.
CAN'T WE JUST PRACTICE AT ZAISHOU CHILDREN'S PARK?
WHAT IF IT RAINS, STUPID?
ワイ
BLAH
DUDES, ISN'T THE REAL PROBLEM HERE THE INSTRUMENTS?
YOU THINK THE MUSIC DEPART-MENT WILL LEND US SOME GUITARS?
AREN'T THOSE ACOUSTIC?
YOU WANNA COME TO MY PLACE?
WELL...
THEN...
...WAIT, WHY?
THE OLD STAND-BY
"WE'LL GO! WE'LL GO!"

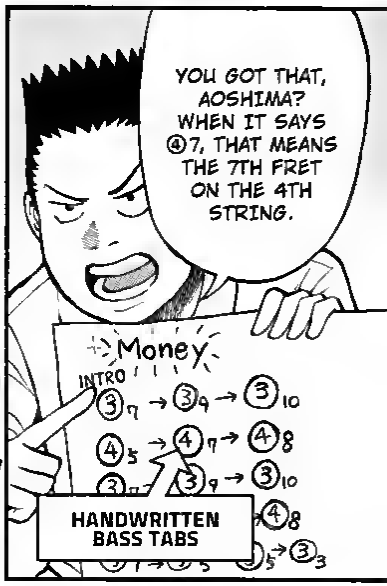
TA-DAH
THE ITOU RESIDENCE
BAM
BA-DAM
YAMAHA
...WAIT, SO YOUR FAMILY'S RICH?
THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE A MUSIC STORE!
WHOA, ITOU! WHAT IS ALL THIS STUFF?!
なんか ひくわ…
I'M RATHER TAKEN ABACK...

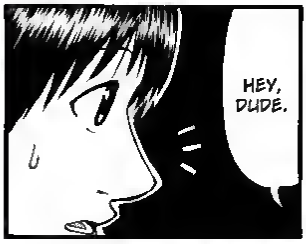
IT'S A GUITAR!
WHOA!
WOW.
THEY'RE JUST THINGS MY DAD'S COLLECTED.
DON'T YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT PICKING UP A GUITAR!
DON'T DO IT, MAN!
CLINCH
BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND HIS CONTROL, AOSHIMA WAS ASSIGNED TO THE BASS.
...
YOU ARE FORBIDDEN FROM DOING GUITAR OR VOCALS!!
IF YOU PICK UP THAT GUITAR, THIS'LL TURN INTO A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT COMIC*!!
FLOP
LOOK IN THE MIRROR, MORON!
*NAMELY, "BECK"
...HUH? WHY NOT?
NOW LISTEN HERE, BUB

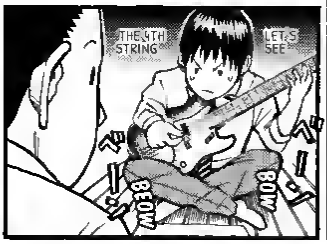
BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
I PLAYED IN THE OHAYASHI* FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION...
FORMER NEIGHBORHOOO ASSOCIATION OHAYASHI PERFORMER
DRUMS: FUJIKAWA
*FESTIVAL MUSIC USUALLY FEATURING DRUMS, FLUTES, AND SHAMISEN
THEN... I GUESS I'LL HANDLE GUITAR AND VOCALS.
CAN PLAY SHOUGO HAMAOA SONGS A LITTLE
GUITAR & VOCALS:
KOMATSU
IF IT'S "DER FLOHWALZER" YOU WANT, THEN LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME!
HAO ONE WEEK OF ORGAN LESSONS BACK IN THE OAY
KEYBDARD:
MATRIX 2
INHERITOR OF MJ'S WILL
BACKUP DANCER: ITOU
WELL, EVEN "DRAGON ASH*" HAS BACK-UP DANCERS.
*RAP ROCK GROUP FORMED IN 1996
WELL...
UH...
WHAT ABOUT ME?
UM...


A SECURITY GUARD?! YOU WANT ME, AND ME ALONE, TO BE A SECURITY GUARD?!
WHEN THE GROUPIES TRY TO CROWD THE STAGE, YOU CAN...
SECURITY:
ELECTRIC MEDUSA

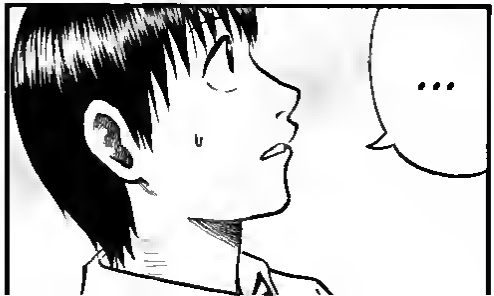

WHOA! THIS LOOKS HARD!!
AND YOU STRUM THOSE OUT WITH THE PICK.


YOU GOT THAT, AOSHIMA? WHEN IT SAYS ④7, THAT MEANS THE 7TH FRET ON THE 4TH STRING.
Money
INTRO
HANDWRITTEN BASS TABS


HEY, DUDE.


THE 4TH STRING
LET'S SEE
BOW
BOW

I WANT TO PLAY?
A SONG...


...

ISN'T THERE, LIKE, A SONG YOU WANT TO PLAY?

*PUNK BAND, FORMED IN 1985

HUH.

MAY-BE?

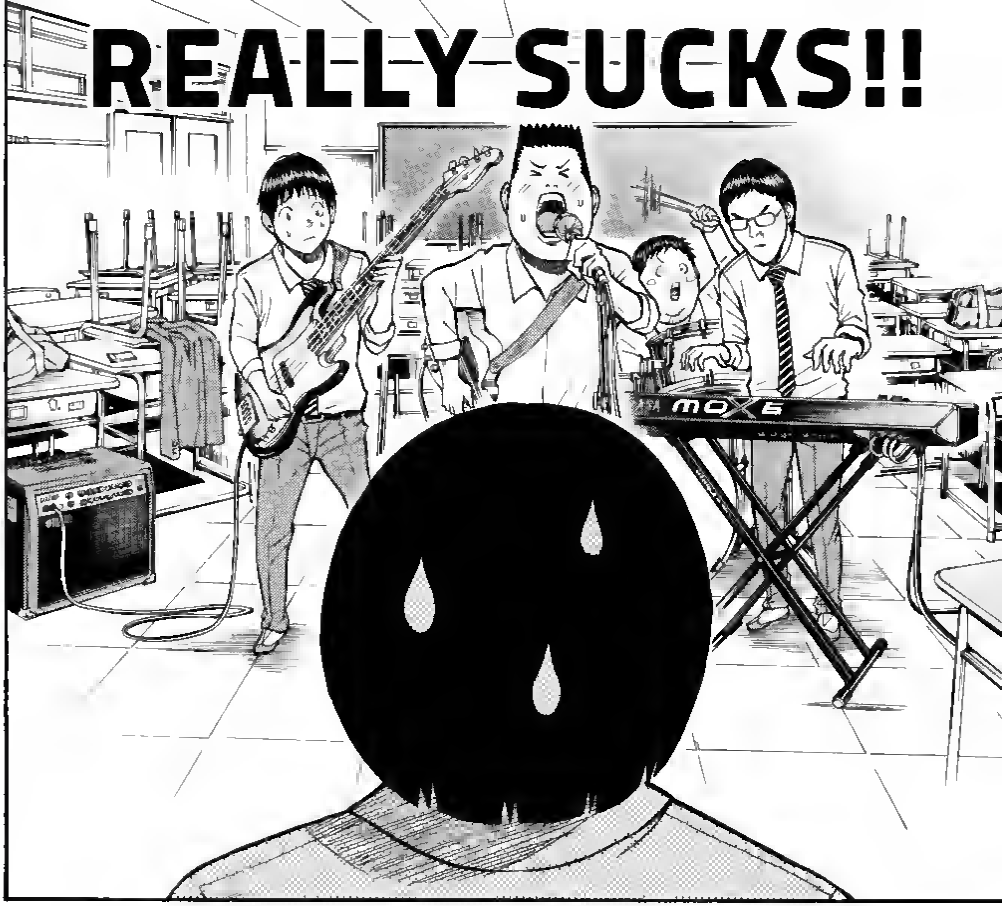
OR SOME-THING?

"HEARTS"...*

"THE BLUE...

I BELIEVE IN NOTHING
A SNOW WHITE MERCEDES,
A MANSION WITH A POOL
MONEY!
MONEY MAKES HER CRAZY!
ONE DAY I'M GONNA
SLAP SOME BIG MONEY
IN BED WITH THE FINEST WOMAN
AND A BOTTLE OF DOM PERIGNON
TAWA
DOWN AT HER FEET!
"MONEY" LYRICS / COMPOSITION BY: SHOUGO HAMADA

TH-
THIS...


REALLY SUCKS!!
MOX6

H... HANG ON!! LET'S PRAC-TICE A LITTLE MORE!
WELP, DIS-MISSED!

I KNOW, RIGHT?
WELL, THAT'S NOT GONNA WORK.

BWAAAA
AAAWN

-PHEW-

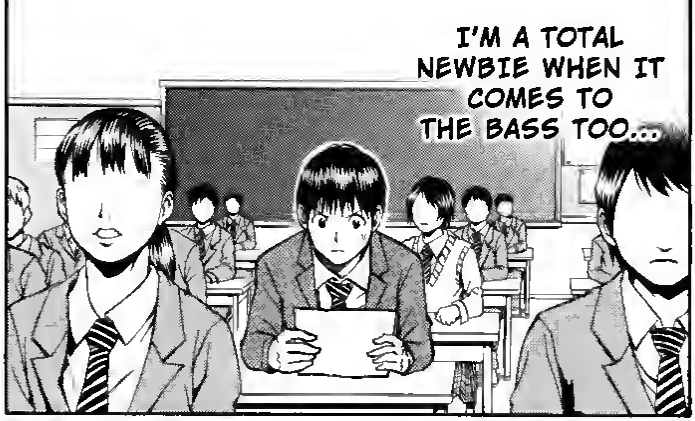
MY WIFE IS
WAGATSUMA-SAN

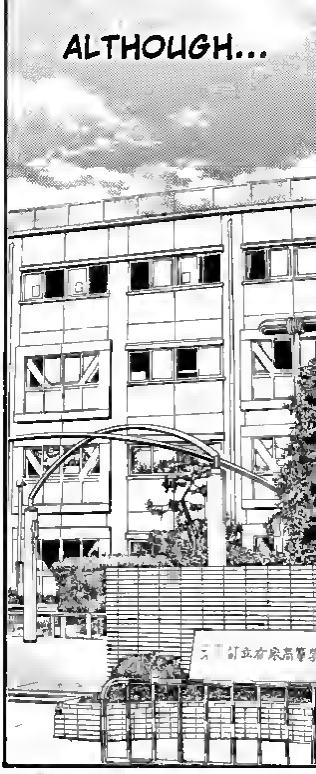
# PART 22
# Don't Stop Me Now

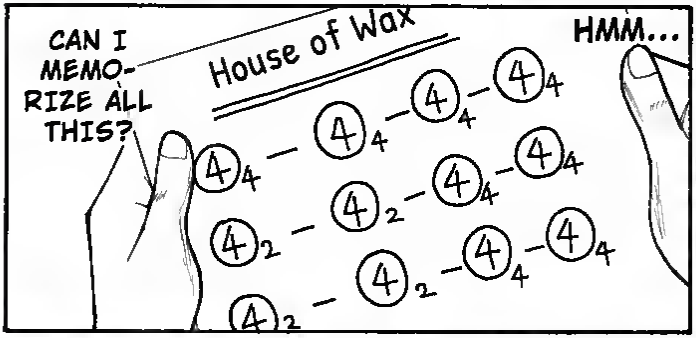
BWEOWN
ALL RIGHT, THEN LET US, "LITTLE RED FORE-SKIN HOOD," PERFORM NORMALLY.
YEAH!
WAIT A SECOND!! WHEN DID OUR BAND GET SUCH A RISQUÉ NAME?!
HMM...
BAH-DUM-TISH
FUJI-Q!!
WHY ARE YOU HITTING THE SNARE, BASS, AND HI-HATS ALL AT ONCE?!
BESIDES BEING A LITTLE TOO INTENSE... KOMATSU... IS STILL BEARABLE...
THE ONLY PROB-LEM IS...
AND IF I IGNORE THE FACT THAT MAT-2 IS A PEDOPHILE, I DON'T MIND WORKING WITH HIM...

HIT THE BASS DRUM LIKE →DUM← AND THE SNARE LIKE →PAM← TO GET →DUM, PAM, DU-DUM, PAM←, DIDN'T I?!
I TOLD YOU TO TAP THE HI-HATS LIKE →TSS, TSS, TSS, TSS← AND...
THAT'S ALL IT SOUNDED LIKE!!
...HUH? IS THAT WHAT IT'S SOUNDING LIKE?
DANG IT! HOW UN-RELIABLE!!
LET'S SEE... THE HI-HATS GO →TSS, TSS, TSS, TSS←, AND...AND...
WE JUST WENT OVER THIS !!!!
BAH-DUM-TISH
BAH-DUM-TISH
OH, HE'S DOING IT! HE'S DOING IT!!
DUDUM-PAM
DUM-PAM
TSS
TAWA
ALL RIGHT! AND A-ONE, AND A-TWO...

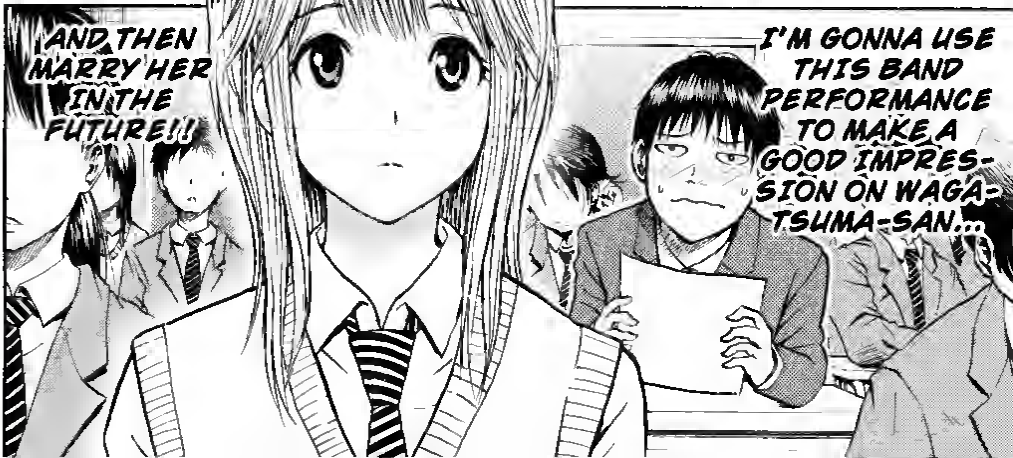
DOING WHAT?
OH... IT LOOKS LIKE ITOU'S BUSY AT THE MOMENT.
MAKES SENSE... HE DOES HAVE A GOOD SENSE OF RHYTHM.
AT THIS POINT, WHY DON'T WE JUST PUT ITOU ON DRUMS?
HE IS ONE OF THOSE REAL-LIFE "MIND OF A CHILD" TYPES.
I GUESS DRUMS ARE TOO COMPLI-CATED FOR FUJI-Q.
HUH?! ITOU'S THE ONE WHO MADE THAT?!
WE'D LIKE AN IMAGE OF CHEF KAWAGOE BACK WHEN HE WAS A COOK PLEASE
SO HE'S DESPER-ATELY TRYING TO FINISH THAT.
IT LOOKS LIKE HE GOT IN AN ORDER FOR ANOTHER CHEF KAWA-GOE PHOTO-SHOP.
CALM DOWN, DUDE!
BAH-DUM-TISH
DUM-PAM
DUDUM-PAM
TAWA
BITE-SIZED BAND TRIVIA!
★THE DRUMS ARE THE BACKBONE OF THE BAND AND THE MOST IMPORTANT AND EYE-CATCHING INSTRUMENT, SO IF THE DRUMMER ISN'T ANY GOOD THEN THE BAND ISN'T ANY GOOD.



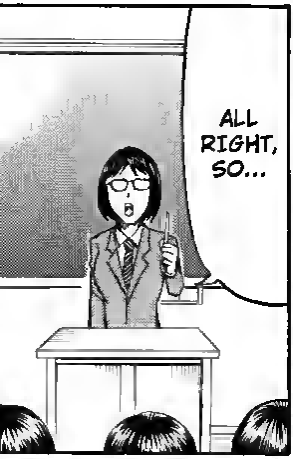




*SONG BY SEIKIMA-II



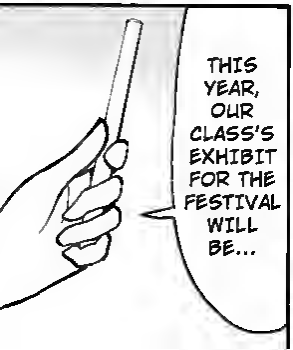
BUT WHAT IF...
YOU MEAN "NECK OR NOTHING"
IT'S HECK OR NOTHING!!!!
MY ENTIRE FUTURE RESTS ON THIS BATTLE!!

BWEONG
BWANG
BUNONG


ALL RIGHT, SO...

WHOA ?!!! WHAT IS IT NOW ?!!!
KLAP KLAP
KLAP KLAP
KLAP
KLAP
KLAP

THE HECK IS THAT?
WHOA, HOW LAME...


THIS YEAR, OUR CLASS'S EXHIBIT FOR THE FESTIVAL WILL BE...

...
I AM ABSURDLY... WORRIED...

WELP, NO MATTER WHAT THEY CHOOSE, IT'S NOT LIKE I'LL BE A PART OF IT...
A COSPLAY CAFÉ, EH?
OH HO HO.
...A COSPLAY CAFÉ!
KLAP
パチ
Used Book Fair: 正正 |
Cosplay Café: 正正 正正 正
Haunted House: ||
HUH?!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE UP AGAIN THIS YEAR!
AI-NYAN !!!!
WHAT?! YOU DON'T KNOW?!
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN? DID AI DO SOMETHING LAST YEAR?
WUH... WAGA-TSUMA-SAN AT A MAID CAFÉ?
OH... THAT WAS ONLY BE-CAUSE MAID CAFÉS WERE IN VOGUE AT THE TIME...
WATCH!
THEY SET THE ALL-TIME SCHOOL RECORD FOR MOST MONEY MADE AT THE FES-TIVAL!
LAST YEAR, AI'S CLASS DID A MAID CAFÉ, AND IT WAS SUCH A HUGE SUCCESS...

MASTER.
WELCOME HOME...
BY ALL MEANS, BRING ON THE MAIDS AGAIN THIS YEAR...
HUH...WELL, THAT'S NOT HALF BAD...
HUH? WHAT'RE THEY GONNA WEAR?
APPEAR IN COSTUME AS WELL.
CHATTER CHATTER
FWAPP
SILVIA-SAN AND...
OHHH
AHH!
IKEDA-SAN...
THIS YEAR, I WAS THINKING WE'D HAVE NOT ONLY WAGATSUMA-SAN, BUT...

AKB48 COS-TUMES !!!!
OHHHHH!!
OR THAT OTHER STANDBY:
THE ANGELS IN WHITE: NURSES !!!!
WELL, WE COULD ALWAYS GO WITH THE OLD STAND-ARD:
OHHHHHHH!!
EVA'S PLUG-SUITS !!!!
OR MAYBE THAT TRIUMPH OF THE DRAPING METHOD OF DESIGN:
YEG
AAH!

©khara inc

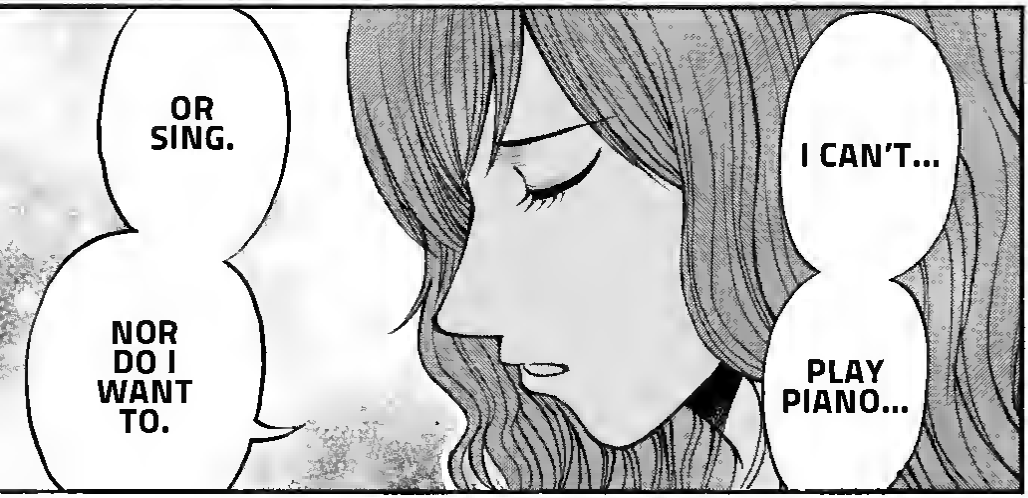
YOU'LL BE GLAD TO PITCH IN, WON'T YOU, SIL--
WHAM
HMPH!
LET'S AIM FOR TOP SALES AGAIN!
OHHH! SOUNDS GOOD! SOUNDS GOOD!
YAY!
YAY!
I DON'T MIND COSPLAYING, BUT WHY SHOULD I DO IT FOR YOU PEOPLE?
YOU CAN'T JUST DECIDE THINGS ON YOUR OWN.
SILVIA STILL DOESN'T FIT IN WITH THE REST OF CLASS...
IT'S BEEN A PRETTY LONG TIME SINCE SHE TRANSFERRED HERE, BUT...
SILENCE...

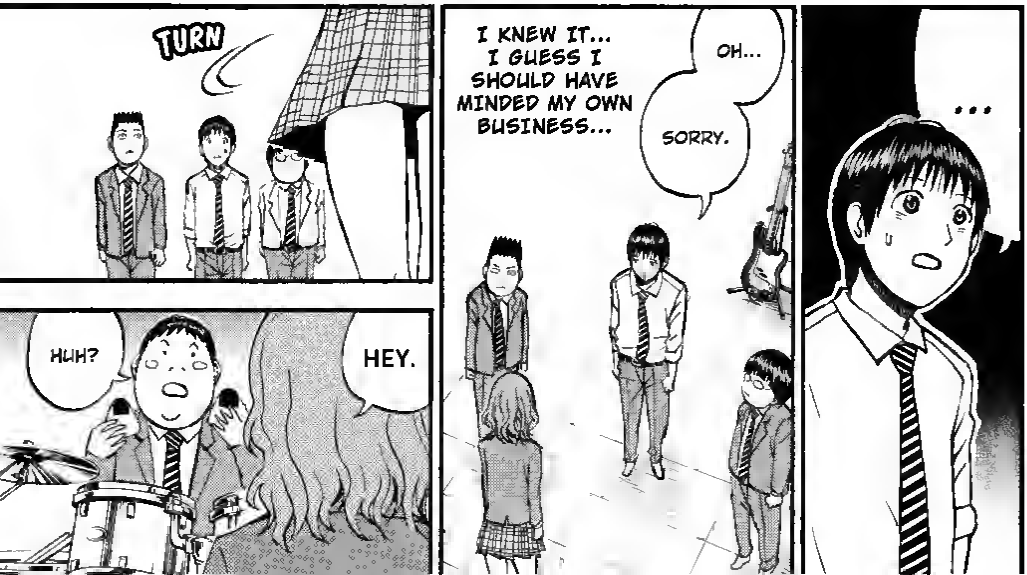
YOU CAN'T JUST DECIDE THINGS ON YOUR OWN.
I DON'T MIND COS-PLAYING, BUT WHY SHOULD I DO IT FOR YOU PEOPLE?
視聴覚室
*"A.V. ROOM"
WHAM
アーー
SO IN THE END, THAT MEANS SILVIA'S NOT GONNA PARTIC-IPATE IN OUR CLASS'S EXHIBIT FOR THE FESTIVAL.
I KNOW, RIGHT?! RIGHT?!
ｷｬｰ
WOO! YEAH!
THAT IS SO AWESOME!! SILVIA, YOU'RE AN AWESOCELES! TRIANGLE!!
△
YOU'RE KIDDING? FOR REAL? SHE REALLY SAID THAT?!
ｷｬｯｷｬｯ
EEK! EEK!
YEAH, YEAH.
うぅん
IDIOT
I KNEW SHE WAS A GOOD WOMAN THE WHOLE TIME.
NOT BAD, SILVIA. NOT BAD AT ALL.
AND THAT ATTITUDE WHEN SHE JUST STRAIGHT-UP SAID "NO" TO THOSE LIFE-HAVERS' FACES?

HOW'S SILVIA GONNA SPEND THE FESTIVAL?
BUT...
SILVIA...
"HOW?"
WELL...
HUH?
AND IF SHE'S NOT DOING ANYTHING, THEN... DOESN'T THAT MEAN...
SHE'S OBVIOUSLY NOT GOING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CLASS'S CAFE...
DID YOU WAIT LONG?
ARADA
AOSHIMA
ALONE.
HUH?
SHE'S GONNA SPEND IT ALL ALONE?

ISN'T THIS... A LITTLE TOO SAD?
MIND MY OWN BUSINESS, BUT...
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST...
BOOM
どーん
JOIN OUR BAND!
SIL-VIA!
IN THAT CASE...!!

CAN'T YOU PLAY PIANO OR SOMETHING ?!!!
OR MAYBE YOU COULD DO THE VOCALS!
HUH?! VOCALS ?!!!
I THOUGHT I WAS OUR VOCALIST?!
TWIN, DUDE! TWIN VOCALS !!!!
AND IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DO THAT, MAYBE YOU COULD SING CHORUS !!!!


I CAN'T...
PLAY PIANO...
OR SING.
NOR DO I WANT TO.


...
OH...
SORRY.
I KNEW IT... I GUESS I SHOULD HAVE MINDED MY OWN BUSINESS...
TURN
HEY.
HUH?

I'M BORROW-ING THESE.
KYA
DUDUM-TSH
BA-DATTA-DATTA-DATTA
SH...SHE'S GOOOOOD!!
BADADABADADAH
HSH!

I CAN PLAY DRUMS...
...A LITTLE.
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
DUM

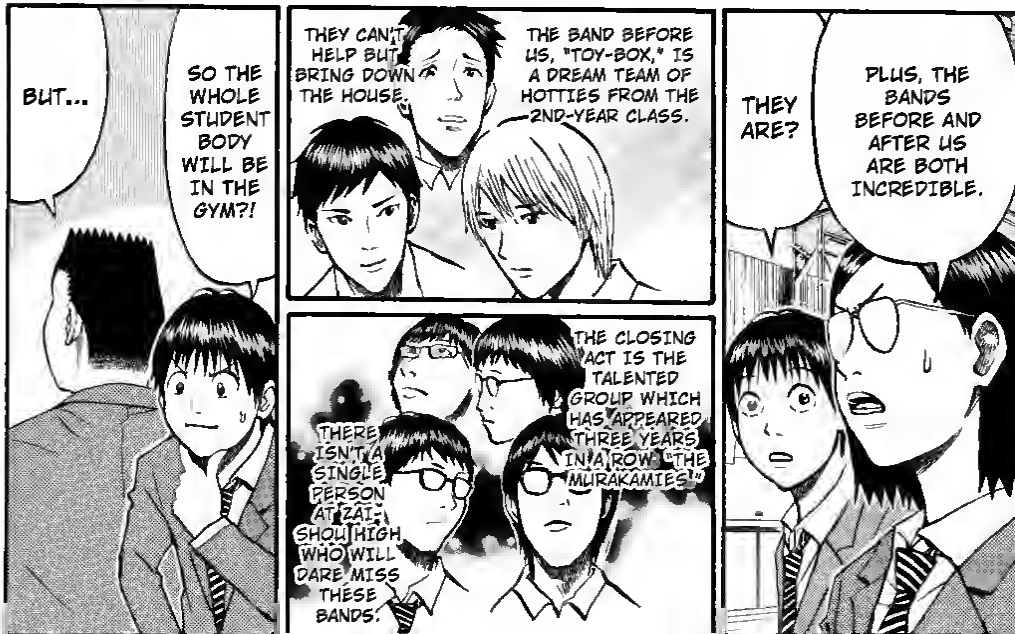
TAWA
HEY, DOESN'T THIS SOUND KIND OF...
NO, NOT JUST "KIND OF"...
PERFORM-ING→
DOESN'T THIS ACTUALLY SOUND...
PRETTY GOOD?

**"ZAISHOU HIGH FEST"

YAY!
ワイ
YAY!
ワイ
文化祭
CHATTER
CHATTER
MY WIFE IS WAGATSUMA-SAN
SO THIS IS THE TIMETABLE FOR THE FESTIVAL, HUH?!
OHHH! THIS IS IT, THEN?
LET'S SEE!
HMM?
HMM?
OH!!

HOLY CRAP! ARE YOU SERIOUS ?!!!
WHOA!! WE'RE RIGHT BEFORE THE FINAL ACT!!
—Lunch Break—
[Chorus Recital] 1:30 - 1:50
[Band Performances]
Green Peas 2:00 - 2:20
HERE!! -ON 2:30 - 2:50
▼OY-BOX 3:00 - 3:20
The DX Band 3:30 - 3:50
Murakamies 4:00 - 4:20
[After-Festival]

# PART 23
# St. Anger

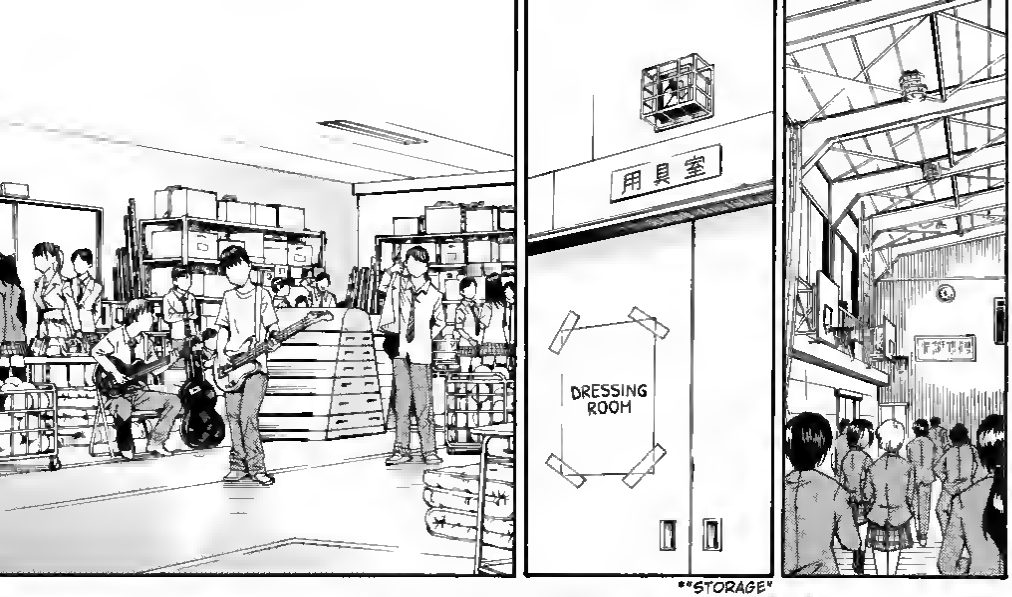

BUT...
SO THE WHOLE STUDENT BODY WILL BE IN THE GYM?!
THEY CAN'T HELP BUT BRING DOWN THE HOUSE.
THE BAND BEFORE US, "TOY-BOX," IS A DREAM TEAM OF HOTTIES FROM THE 2ND-YEAR CLASS.
THERE ISN'T A SINGLE PERSON AT ZAI-SHOU HIGH WHO WILL DARE MISS THESE BANDS.
THE CLOSING ACT IS THE TALENTED GROUP WHICH HAS APPEARED THREE YEARS IN A ROW, "THE MURAKAMIES!"
THEY ARE?
PLUS, THE BANDS BEFORE AND AFTER US ARE BOTH INCREDIBLE.

DUDES... WHAT IF WE, LIKE...
TOTALLY OVER-SHADOW BOTH THOSE BANDS?
HUH?
ワッハッハッハッ
WA! HA! HA!
YEAH, AS IF !!!!
AS IF!
I COULD SEE THAT...!!
AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, TODAY...
DOBASHI ISN'T A MEMBER OF THE BAND...
SO THIS TIME HE WON'T HOG ALL THE GLORY!!
DAHA-HAHA-HAHA-HAHA-HAHA-HAHA !!!!
LET'S DO OUR BEST, BOYS!
YES, LET'S! LET'S!
HUH?
WHERE'S SILVIA?
...SHE'S PROBABLY JUST RUNNING LATE, RIGHT?

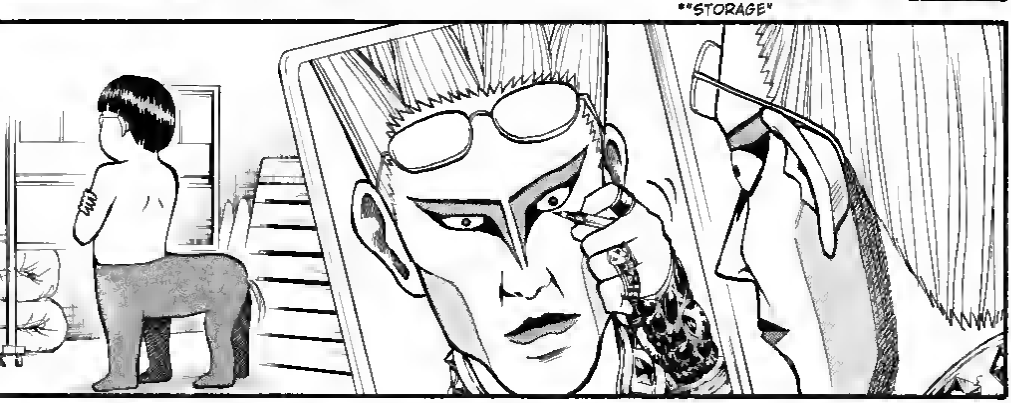
コスプレカフェ
WELCOME!
**COSPLAY CAFÉ*
AHH, HOW CUTE YOU ARE...
YOU'RE SO CUTE, WAGATSUMA-SAN!
HUFF
HUFF
AND IN JUST A FEW SHORT HOURS...
WHOOM

YEEEAAAH
ワアア
WE'RE THE DX BAND!!
HEY THERE !!!!
BWAAAANG
ギャアアン
BUT BEFORE WE GO...
HUFF
HUFF
COMING TODAY
WE'D LIKE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR...
EEEK!!
EEEEEK!!
GIRL I LOVE.
A WORD TO THE...

AI WAGA-TSUMA-SAN!!
WHAT ?!!!
FOR REAL ?!!!
ARE... YOU...
I AM SOOO JEAL-OUS!!
THE GIRL...
I LOVE!!
AO-SHIMA-KUN..
HAAAAAAH!!
WAGA-TSUMA-SAN!!
THAT'S NICE! THAT'S SO NICE!
FLAIL FLAIL
DEPENDING ON HOW WELL THINGS GO...
I MAY JUST ASK HER OUT TODAY!!




**"STORAGE"



HMM?
HEY, UH... GUYS?
VZZZZZZZZT
AND I SEE YOU'RE GOING AS PIERRE TAKI**, HUH, ITOU-SAN?
OH, YOU'RE GOING KAWORU MINATO*-STYLE, EH, FUJI-Q?
VERY TASTEFUL.

*"MEMBER OF THE GROUP TAMASHII," PUNK COMEDY BAND. **"MEMBER OF THE TECHNOPOP GROUP "DENKI GROOVE"

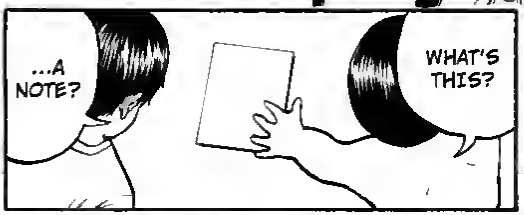
SILVIA... SAYS SHE CAN'T COME TO THE FESTIVAL...
Silvia Shimotsuma
Silvia Shimotsuma
My menstrual cramps are so intense today I can barely move.
Good luck with the band, boys.
FLOP
IS THAT, LIKE, THE SEQUEL TO "KIRISHIMA SAYS HE'S QUITTING THE TEAM*" OR SOMETHING?
HUH?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
*NOVEL BY SHOU ASAI IN WHICH A VOLLEYBALL TEAM CAPTAIN QUITS THE TEAM

BEING ODDLY WEAK UNDER PRESSURE, ITOU'S BLOWING CHUNKS!!
AHH!
BLAA-AAAA-AAAA-ARGH!
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, MAN?!!!
I DUNNO!! I DUNNO!! I DUNNO!!
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?! WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?! WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?!
I...I... I DON'T... I DUH...
THEN, THIS MEANS I'LL BE PLAYING THE DRUMS, HUH?
BAH-DUM-TISH
STAWA
BAH-DUM-TISH
THEY JUST DON'T!
KRASH
EEK! EEK!
WHY NOT?!
KRASH
NO ONE WANTS TO HEAR YOUR CYMBAL-BANGING MONKEY-STYLE DRUMS!!

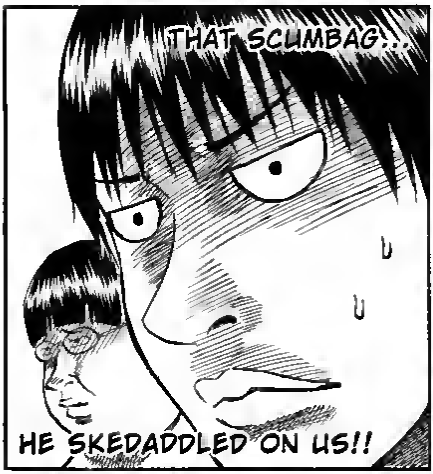
WE MUST CONSIDER A BACKUP PLAN IN CASE SHE DOESN'T SHOW...
AND AT THE SAME TIME...
GET HER HERE NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES!!
FOR NOW, USE THIS TO CONTACT SILVIA!
HUH?! ME?!
TOSS
HOTTIE BAND: TOY-BOX
DRUMS: EGUCHI
HUH?
WEEE-EELL...
...
WHY?! I'VE GOT NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!!
YOU WANT ME TO PLAY DRUMS FOR YOU GUYS, TOO?!
WHAP
IT'S TOTALLY COOL IF YOU'RE IN A-NOTHER BAND TOO!!
PLEASE!!
MURAKAMIES
DRUMS: YAMA-MURAKAMI
NO, NO. YOU CAN'T JUST SPRING THAT ON ME LIKE THIS...
HE CLEAR-LY JUST TURNED US DOWN BECAUSE OF OUR LOOKS!!
SORRY.
...I JUST CAN'T DO IT.

SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO FILL THE VOID BY DOING SOMETHING BESIDES PLAYING MUSIC...
HUH? YOU DON'T MEAN...
DANG IT!!
IT'S NO USE! SHE'S IGNORING ALL CALLS AND TEXTS!!
ELECTRIC MEDUSA!! HAS SILVIA GOTTEN BACK TO US YET?!
I GUESS FINDING A REPLACEMENT...
ISN'T GONNA HAPPEN, HUH?
FLAP
FLAP
MEOW!
MAGIC TRICKS !!!!
EXILE!
スイ
YOU AREN'T DOING IT!! YOU AREN'T DOING IT AT ALL!
FWIP
AHHHH!!
WHAT DID YOU SAY, JERK?!
THAT KIND OF TICKS ME OFF. SO CUT IT OUT!!

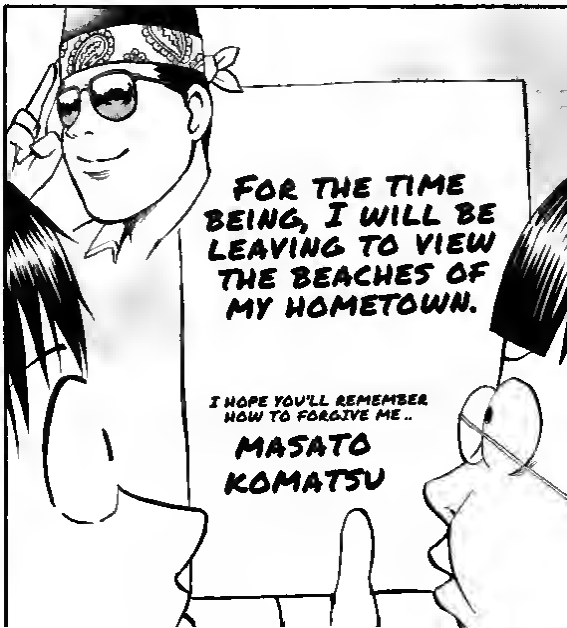
YARGH! WE'RE RUNNIN' LOW ON TIME!!
THE BAND TWO SLOTS AHEAD OF US JUST WENT ON!!
KOMATSU! AT THIS POINT, WE'RE JUST GONNA HAVE TO GO WITH FUJI-Q ON DRUMS!!
BAAAW
VI. COPYCAT BAND: N-ON! (NOISE)


...A NOTE?
WHAT'S THIS?

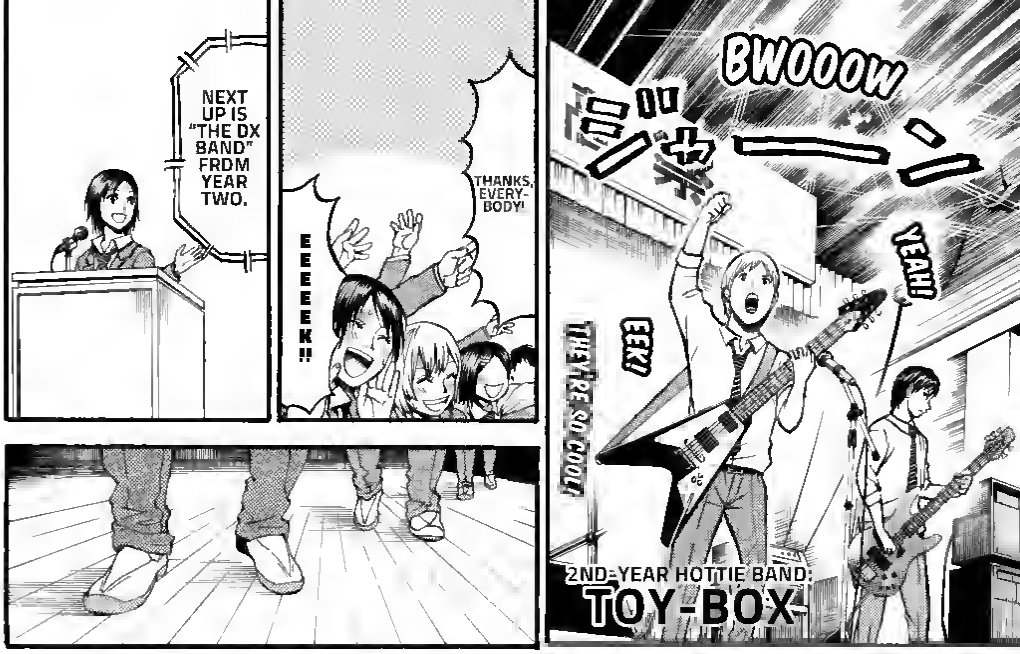
HMM?
HUH? KOMATSU?


THAT SCUMBAG...
HE SKEDADDLED ON US!!

H-HRNGH...

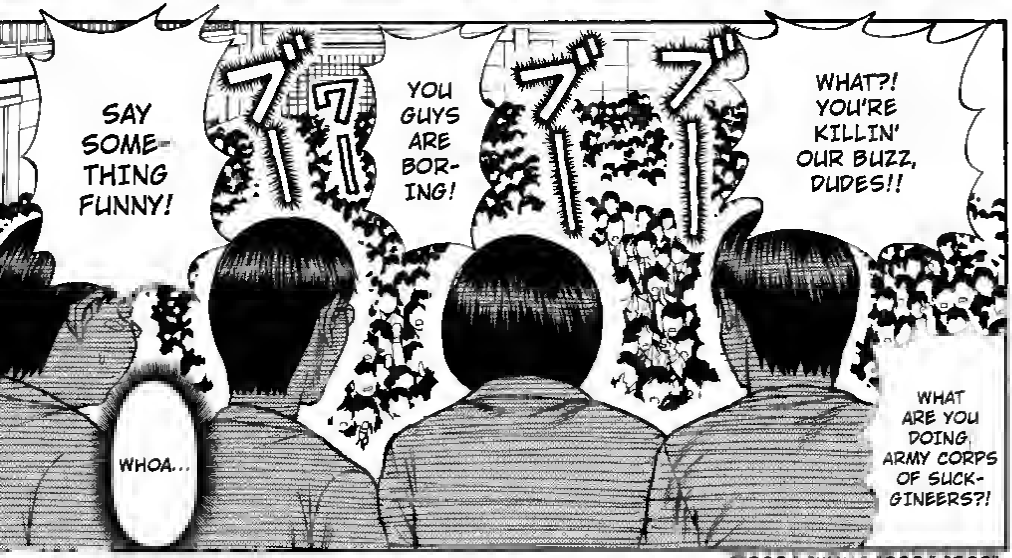

FOR THE TIME BEING, I WILL BE LEAVING TO VIEW THE BEACHES OF MY HOMETOWN.
I HOPE YOU'LL REMEMBER HOW TO FORGIVE ME..
MASATO KOMATSU

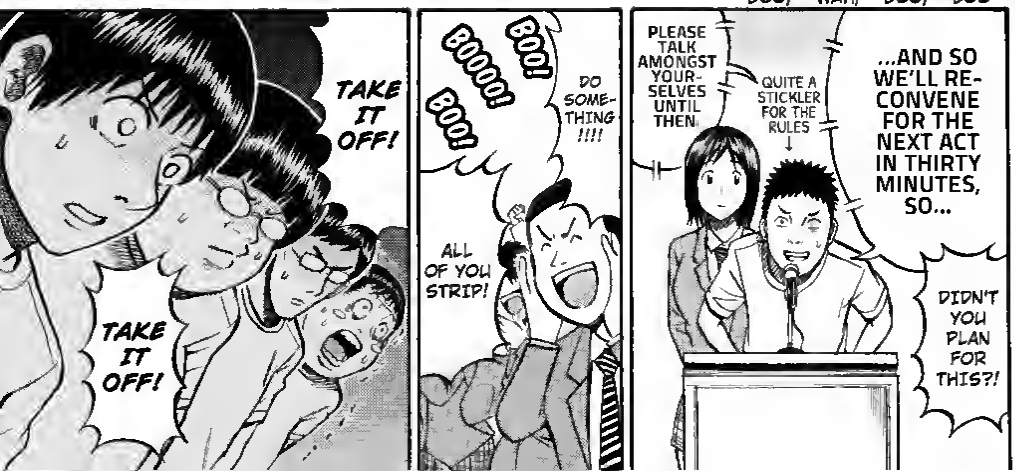
DIDN'T YOU DO THAT? PLAY IN A BAND.
WHAT DOES HE THINK I CAN DO IN FRONT OF THE WHOLE SCHOOL WITH THIS SHIP OF FOOLS?
OUR BAND'S NOT GONNA BE ABLE TO PERFORM! WON'T THAT CHANGE THE FUTURE?! WON'T THAT STOP ME FROM MARRYING WAGATSUMA-SAN?!
WHOA, WAIT A SECOND. AT THIS RATE...
IT'S KILL-ING US TOO!
HANG ON NOW! YOU'RE KILLIN' ME HERE! I'VE GOT THIS THING SCHEDULED DOWN TO THE WIRE!
HUH?! YOU'RE MISSING A MEM-BER?! YOU CAN'T PER-FORM?!
FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEMBER
TERUYUKI TAKADA
OH GOD! HE'S ONLY A VOLUNTEER ON THE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE, BUT HE'S ACTING LIKE HE'S A PRO!
AHH, I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! YOU'LL NEVER WORK IN THIS TOWN AGAIN!!
HUH?!
SAY YOU'RE SORRY TO ALL THE NICE PEOPLE
THEN, WHY DON'T YOU ALL GO APOLO-GIZE?
OH WELL.

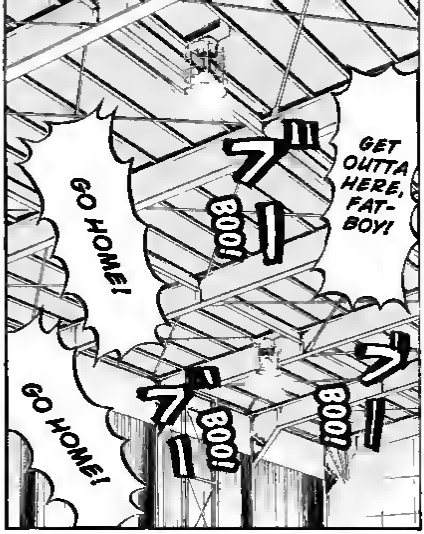

NEXT UP IS "THE DX BAND" FROM YEAR TWO.
EEEEEEK!!
THANKS, EVERYBODY!
BWOOOW
YEAH!
EEK!
THEY'RE SO COOL!
2ND-YEAR HOTTIE BAND:
TOY-BOX

DON'T TELL ME...
HOLD UP...
ONE OF OUR MEMBERS COULDN'T MAKE IT TODAY, SO...
WELL, UH... THE TRUTH IS...
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
→THUNK←

WE ARE... TRULY SORRY.
DUE TO THIS CIRCUMSTANCE, WE ARE UNABLE TO PERFORM.


SAY SOME-THING FUNNY!
YOU GUYS ARE BOR-ING!
WHAT?! YOU'RE KILLIN' OUR BUZZ, DUDES!!
WHOA...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ARMY CORPS OF SUCK-GINEERS?!


"BOO," "WAH," "BOO," "BOO"
TAKE IT OFF!
TAKE IT OFF!
BOO! BOOOO! BOO!
DO SOME-THING !!!!
ALL OF YOU STRIP!
PLEASE TALK AMONGST YOUR-SELVES UNTIL THEN.
QUITE A STICKLER FOR THE RULES
...AND SO WE'LL RE-CONVENE FOR THE NEXT ACT IN THIRTY MINUTES, SO...
DIDN'T YOU PLAN FOR THIS?!


GET OUTTA HERE, FAT-BOY!
BOO!
GO HOME!
BOO!
BOO!
GO HOME!

WHOA, ITOU! CUT IT OUT, YOU IDIOT!
WHUMP
ALL RIGHT! FINE!! YOU WANT IT?! YOU GOT IT!!

# IT'S OVER...

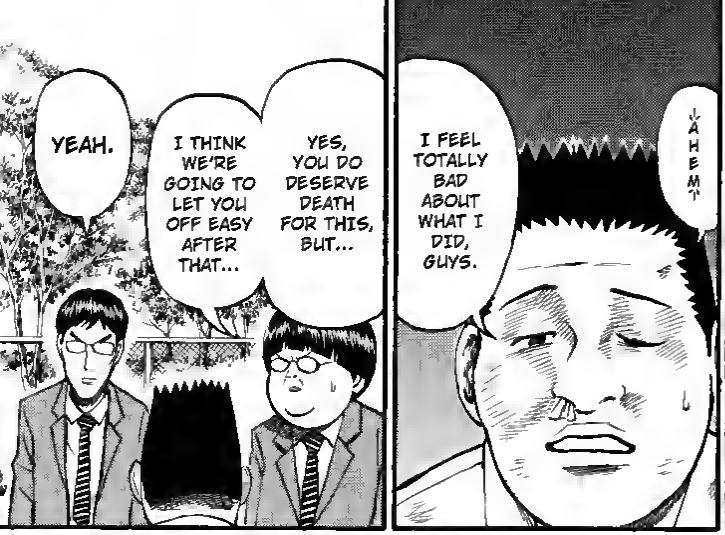
YEEAAAH!

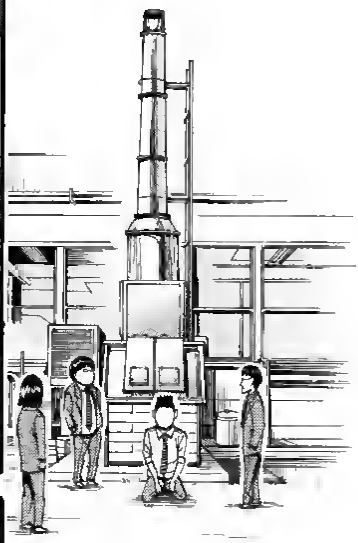
WE FAILED UTTERLY.

WE COULDN'T EVEN...
WOOOOO!
PERFORM AS A BAND...

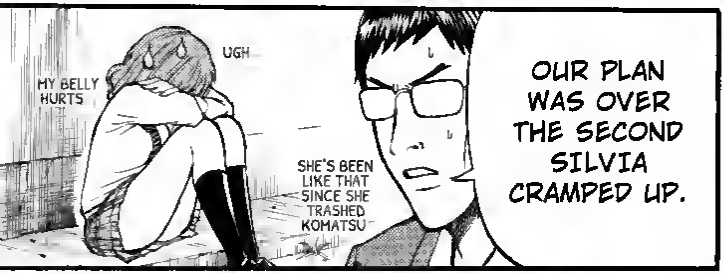
WHAT WAS UP WITH THOSE DX BAND GUYS?
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS CRAP.
THERE'S NO WAY THOSE LOSERS CAN PULL OFF A BAND.
THEY'RE SO CREEPY.
TO PUT IT BLUNTY,
KYAHAHAHAHA!
BWAHAHAHAHA!
C-CUT IT OUT!!
HMM?
SUH-SAVE ME!!
THAT... THAT WASN'T ME!!
KOMA-TSU!!
YOU JERK! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CHICKEN-ED OUT!
I'LL MUR-DELIZE YA!

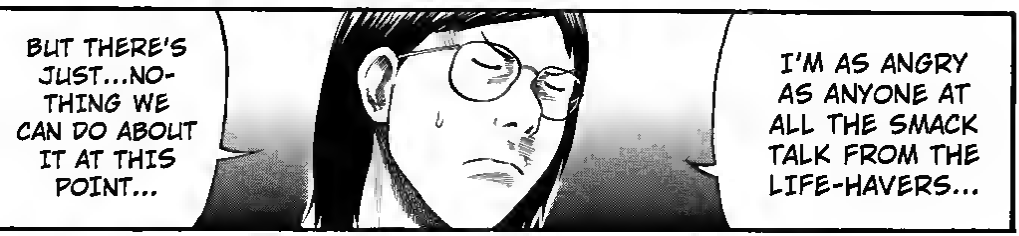
K-KO-MATSU ?!!!
THOKK
WHO...
WHAM
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
...ARE YOU CALLING...
Hey!! Get your ass here, you titanic-tittied trollop!!
...A "TITANIC-TITTIED TROLLOP" ?!!!
RMB
RMB
RMB
RMB
IT... IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, SIL-VIA!
ELEC-TRIC MEDUSA SENT THAT TEXT!!
THOR
HNGH!!

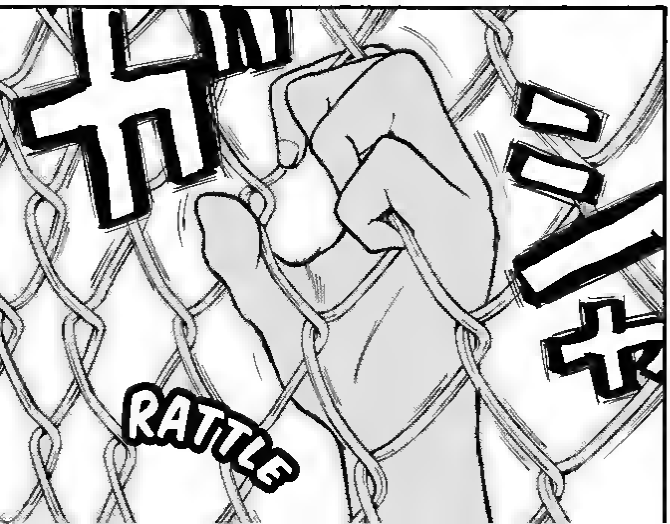

YEAH.
I THINK WE'RE GOING TO LET YOU OFF EASY AFTER THAT...
YES, YOU DO DESERVE DEATH FOR THIS, BUT...
I FEEL TOTALLY BAD ABOUT WHAT I DID, GUYS.
↓AHEM↑



IN FRONT OF THE OLD INCINERATOR



YOU ALL FEEL THE SAME WAY, RIGHT?
LET'S STICK IT TO THEM...
...HUH?
I DON'T WANT TO LET THINGS END LIKE THIS...
WHO LOOKED DOWN ON US.
LET'S STICK IT TO THOSE JERKS...
CONTINUED IN VOL. 6